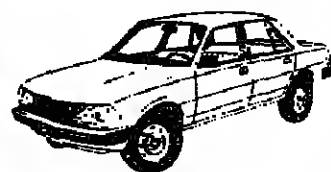


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Assad renews pledge on Lebanon

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Friday renewed his pledge of support for Lebanese efforts to end their 11-year civil war and liberate territory occupied by Israel, and sent a personal message to President Amin Gemayel. In a cable to Mr. Gemayel, Mr. Assad said: "Syria is with Lebanon in any sincere effort and serious act aimed at Lebanon's real liberation and eliminating the causes that led to the existing tragic situation there. (Syria) is with any effort that leads to the liberation of Lebanese lands occupied by Israel and to the restoration of normal life in Lebanon. The Syrian News Agency said Mr. Assad expressed "sincere congratulations and best wishes to President Gemayel and the Lebanese people." Diplomatic sources said they believed Mr. Assad's message could mark the start of a new phase in Syria's relations with the Gemayel administration, strained since the Lebanese president refused to endorse a Syrian-backed peace pact for his country signed last year by the main militia leaders. The message followed press speculation that Mr. Gemayel would visit Damascus shortly for talks with Mr. Assad.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Turkish trade minister arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Turkish Minister of Industry and Trade, Turgut Balgici, arrived here Friday after devoting the last day of his visit to a four-day visit to Jordan during which he will meet with Ministers of Supply and Industry and Trade, Rajid Al Mashaer and a number of Jordanian officials. During the visit, the Jordanian-Turkish joint committee will hold its meeting to discuss means of further promoting bilateral trade and economic relations. Turkey is among countries which import Jordanian phosphates and potash.

3 UNRWA employees kidnapped near Sidon

BEIRUT (R) — The U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) said three of its employees were kidnapped near Sidon on Friday. UNRWA officials in Beirut are making urgent contacts with local militias to obtain their release. It said in a statement. It did not disclose the nationality of the three employees. Most UNRWA employees in Lebanon are Lebanese or Palestinian. The statement said those kidnapped were the assistant principal, and two other workers at an UNRWA training center at Sidon, near Sidon. UNRWA provides schools, clinics and welfare services for about 300,000 Palestinians in more than a dozen refugee settlements across the country. Scores of UNRWA employees have been kidnapped during the 11-year-old civil war, although many were subsequently released. A British journalist on assignment to UNRWA, Alec Collett, 64, was seized in March 1985 and is one of 19 foreigners listed as missing believed kidnapped in Lebanon.

Swedish minister heads for Mideast

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish Defense Minister Carlsson left Friday for a tour of the Middle East, a week before a battalion of Swedish troops arrive in southern Lebanon to join the U.N. peace-keeping forces there, a defense official said. Mr. Carlsson's schedule is being kept secret for reasons of security, the official said, but he would visit Cyprus, Lebanon, Egypt, Israel and Syria during his five-day trip.

Lebanon approves Iranian ambassador

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon on Friday approved the appointment of an Iranian ambassador, raising Tehran's diplomatic representation to that level for the first time in three years. Ahmad Dastmalchi, 29, will take up his post in Beirut in a month, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The decision was made as a senior Iranian delegation visiting Lebanon held talks with leaders of the nation's Shi'ite community on "bolstering Islamic unity," a statement said. Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, who heads the Iranian group, said the talks with Lebanese Shi'ite spiritual leader Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddine concentrated on "Islamic unity and the situation of Muslims in Lebanon."

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Democrat leader accuses Reagan of violating law

'Several other countries' besides U.S. and Israel sent arms to Iran, Casey tells Congress

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The leader of the Democratic Party in the House of Representatives on Friday accused President Ronald Reagan of violating the law by supplying arms to Iran and said Tehran paid more than \$12 million for missiles bought from the U.S.

Jim Wright, commenting after a closed-door meeting with Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey, said Mr. Casey told him that President Reagan had ordered the CIA to withhold information about the covert operation from Congress. "I don't think there is any question that the law has been broken," said Mr. Wright, who is expected to be the speaker of the House of Representatives when Congress reconvenes in January. Mr. Wright told reporters that 1,000 of the 2,000 Taw missiles bought from the United States were assembled in San Antonio

CIA involved in death of 200 Iranians — Petrovsky

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. officials were involved in an "inquisition" against leftists in Iran and have "blood on their hands," a Soviet official says. Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky told a news conference Thursday that in its secret dealings with Iran, the United States apparently provided information that led to the deaths of 200 people. "It is clear that the United States was involved in the killing of 200 people by an Iranian inquisition," Mr. Petrovsky said. "They have blood on their hands." Mr. Petrovsky referred to a Washington Post article on Wednesday. The Post, citing intelligence and other sources it did not identify, said the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) provided the government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini with a list of 100 to 200 names of people said to be Soviet collaborators and intelligence agents. About 200 suspects were executed, dealing a major blow to Soviet operations and influence in Iran, the report said. Mr. Petrovsky also charged with

Khaddam: U.S. should cooperate with Syria

PARIS (AP) — Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, in an interview published Friday, said the United States should cooperate with Syria to define the line between terrorism and legitimate struggles for liberation. "Syria does not practise terrorism and doesn't help it," Mr. Khaddam said in an interview with the French Communist Party organ L'Humanite. "If the United States was really against terrorism, it would agree to cooperate with Syria to define the exact line that separates struggle for liberation and terrorism," he said. The Syrian vice-president also reaffirmed that his country had exerted considerable effort for the release of French hostages held in Lebanon and would continue to do so. "I want to remind you that in the past we have had certain successes in the liberation of certain hostages," he said. But he added that "statements have been made here and there to complicate things. But, in any case, we are going to pursue our efforts to come to a happy solution." He said attacks against Syria were being orchestrated by the United States, Israel and other Western countries. "The United States and their allies in the region have failed in the launching of a wave of terrorism in Syria," he said. "You know that Syria has been the

arms) with the condoning of the United States and the complicity of the United States in some instances," Mr. Wright said. And he said these countries "felt, at least, that they were abiding with the wishes of the United States" in shipping arms to Iran.

Mr. Wright said Mr. Casey assured members of the house intelligence committee that there are no other cases in which the CIA has been ordered to withhold information about a covert operation from Congress.

He said the law forbids the United States from withholding secret information from Congress and said it is "clear and unambiguous."

Mr. Reagan revealed last week the United States had provided arms to Iran in a series of secret contacts with the fundamentalist Islamic republic over the last 18 months. He denied the arms deals were aimed at getting the Iranians to pressure pro-Tehran groups in

Washington divided over Iran deal; Danish union leader calls Rabin a liar; Khomenei rules out softening stand on U.S., page 2

Iranian shelling kills 12 civilians in Basra

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said 12 civilians were killed by shelling in Gulf war action on Friday, while Iran reported setting an Iraqi offshore oil platform ablaze.

Baghdad's nightly communique said the civilian casualties were in its southern port city of Basra, frequently a target of Iranian long-range guns.

The communique said another 47 people were wounded and 20 houses and a hospital were damaged in the latest round of shelling.

Tehran said Thursday night it would shell Iraqi cities for 48 hours in retaliation for an Iraqi air attack on Ahvaz, capital of Khuzestan province, in which it said 12 people were killed and nearly 200 wounded.

The Iranian national news agency (IRNA) said that in addition to the shelling of "military and economic targets" around Basra, Iranian planes were in action against similar targets in the towns of Dhyala, north of Baghdad, and Ali Gharbi and Ali Sharqi in the east.

It also reported that Iraq's offshore Al Bakr oil platform in the northern Gulf was set on fire

version of events was not confirmed by the U.N. spokesman.

The car bomb explosion at the Jir Al Hamra checkpoint wounded two other Fijian soldiers and two more civilians.

UNIFIL and the SLA have been the targets of attacks by guerrillas since Israel withdrew the bulk of its troops from South Lebanon in 1985 after a three-year occupation.

Israel has repeatedly contended that UNIFIL had proved ineffective in stopping guerrilla attacks since the U.N. set up the force to oversee a pullout of Israeli troops that invaded Lebanon in 1978.

Israel invaded again in 1982 with the declared aim of driving Palestinian guerrillas out of rocket-firing areas of Israel. It withdrew the bulk of its troops in June 1985 and set up the "security zone."

At least 20 suicide attacks have been carried out against Israeli and SLA posts since then. The operations had fallen off in recent months.

The last suicide car bomb attack occurred on July 17 in Jezzine, a town held by the SLA. The attack killed the woman driver of the vehicle involved and wounded five men.

UNIFIL has troops from nine countries — France, Ireland, Sweden, Italy, Fiji, Ghana, Nepal, Norway and Finland.

Arab shop set ablaze and homes attacked in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An Arab-owned vegetable shop was burned down in Jerusalem's Old City overnight as a wave of anti-Arab violence continued after the killing of a Jewish youth last Saturday, police said.

A petrol bomb was thrown at an Arab house but the blaze was rapidly put out. There were no casualties in either incident.

Three Arab-owned cars parked outside the city walls were destroyed by arsonists at about the same time.

The attacks were the latest in a series against Palestinians after the stabbings to death of 22-year-old Elihu Amedi in the Old City.

Police suspect right-wing extremists and associates of Amedi from the Shuvu Banim Yeshiva (rabbinical school) have been behind subsequent daily anti-Arab violence.

Jerusalem's Israeli mayor, Teddy Kollek, a conciliator

between Jews and Arabs, appealed in vain for calm on Thursday, calling the Shuvu Banim extremists wild, irresponsible men.

He said anti-Arab violence by Jews played into the hands of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and endangered Jewish control over the whole of Jerusalem.

There have been anti-Arab demonstrations every night this week in the "Shmuel Hanavi" area of West Jerusalem, where Amedi lived.

A left-wing parliamentarian who visited the area was taken to hospital with head wounds Thursday night after being stoned by young rightists chanting "death to the Arabs."

Sheikh Mohammad Said Al Jamal, the deputy mufti of Jerusalem, called in a Friday sermon for protection for the city's Arab population against "the government that is imposed on us."

He urged the worshippers to be steadfast in defending their rights and said Jewish extremists taking revenge on innocent local Arabs were unfaithful to their own religious teachings.

Three Arabs from the occupied West Bank town of Jenin were arrested minutes after Saturday's stabbing.

Police said they had told interrogators they carried out the attack on behalf of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said the recent incidents were "among the most serious problems in the history of Israel."

Arab residents said Israeli police have done little or nothing to arrest the troublemakers. Sheikh Jamal said in an interview with the newspaper Al Fajr:

"The Jewish extremists have gotten to be like spoiled children, doing whatever they want without

(Continued on page 3)

Palestinians break out of Sidon camp and seize truce positions

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — Palestinian fighters fought their way out of the large 'Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp near Sidon on Friday breaking a Syrian-mediated truce with their Lebanese militia rivals.

Security sources quoted by Reuters said the Palestinians laid down a barrage of mortar bomb and rocket fire before seizing three positions from a buffer force of Popular Liberation Army (PLA) fighters 500 metres from the camp.

"Heavy battles are raging in villages around the camp and near the industrial area southeast of Sidon where scores of civilians have been trapped," one Sidon resident told Reuters.

The PLA set up positions between the Palestinians and the Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia on Oct. 26 under a Syrian-mediated truce which halted earlier fighting.

The security sources said there were several casualties but ambulances were unable to reach the scene of the fighting at 'Ain Al Hilweh, where 30,000 people live.

The PLA issued a statement accusing Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), stirring up

the new clashes, echoing Syrian accusations. Mr. Arafat is believed to have wide support in 'Ain Al Hilweh.

Friday's flare-up started after dawn when Palestinians ambushed an Amal truck loaded with weapons travelling between Sidon and Tyre to the south, where Amal is fighting Palestinians at the Rashidiyah camp, the security sources said.

They said the fighters seized four Amal militiamen escorting the truck, which Amal said was wrecked in the attack about five kilometres from 'Ain Al Hilweh.

In Beirut, police said fierce fighting with mortars and rockets flared in and around Bourj Al Barajneh, a crowded Palestinian camp surrounded by Shi'ite areas.

At least 100 people have been killed in Amal-Palestinian fighting around refugee camps in Lebanon in the past seven weeks.

Thursday's fighting in Beirut was less intense than earlier battles with mortars and artillery. Police said only rocket-propelled grenades and machine gun fire was exchanged Thursday around Bourj Al Barajneh, an estimated 50,000 refugees.

But there still were no sign of a

settlement to the 18-month-old hostilities that have raged intermittently in Beirut and South Lebanon.

The Palestinians, divided between supporters of Mr. Arafat and Syrian-backed opponents, have joined forces to defend their presence in Lebanon.

Amal, led by Lebanese Justice Minister Nabih Berri, fears the resumption of PLO activities will provoke Israeli reprisals in the mainly Shi'ite-populated south.

Syria has stepped in to end the feud. Mr. Berri has been meeting in Damascus with representatives of pro-Syrian Lebanese factions.

But sources close to the talks, speaking to AP on condition they were not to be named, said the militia warlords have failed to reach agreement.

A Syrian government newspaper on Thursday accused Mr. Arafat of stirring up the fighting at the refugee camps.

"Since the camps war started it became evident that Arafat was trying to find it to take over the national Palestinian leadership," the daily, Tishrin, said.

As the Amal-Palestinian

(Continued on page 3)

W. Germany Angry Lebanese stage anti-starvation protests

BEIRUT (AP) — Chanting "We're hungry," some 500 students and women demonstrated in west Beirut on Friday to protest soaring prices caused by a sharp fall of the Lebanese pound against foreign currencies.

The pound plunged to a record low earlier this week, doubling the prices of all commodities and causing severe shortages of gasoline, bread, rice, sugar, drinking water and milk.

"Let us live Amin Gemayel," chanted the demonstrators, blaming the nation's president for the economic crisis. They marched through Hama, the western sector's main commercial thoroughfare.

The financial crisis has been blamed on the failure of Muslim and Christian leaders to agree to a settlement for the 11-year-old civil strife.

The U.S. dollar was sold Tuesday on Beirut's money markets for 73 pounds. Before Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, the exchange rate ranged between three and four pounds to the dollar.

Three hanks have been attacked this week as underground groups threatened to strike at financial institutions and "execute" currency speculators and bankers.

The dollar lost 11 pounds in three days and was sold in Beirut for 62 pounds on Friday.

Banks and foreign currency dealers interrupted work as the demonstrators burned a one dollar note in Hama to express anger and demanded "support for the Lebanese pound."

"We are going to unsettle you, Gemayel. The people will rule and will know how to defend their living," read one banner.

Muslim leaders have blamed the devaluation of their currency on military purchases ordered by Mr. Gemayel, a Maronite Catholic, for Christian units of the Lebanese army at a time the treasury was broke.

Christian leaders say the crisis emerged because Prime Minister Rashid Karami has refused to convene his 10-man cabinet under Mr. Gemayel.

Jordan Insurance Co. Ltd.

Announces that it will be moving out of its present offices on King Hussein Street - Asfour Bldg. - to its new premises in the Jordan Insurance Co. Bldg. on Jabal Amman - Third Circle - opposite Orient Restaurant (Abu Ahmad) with effect from Saturday 22.11.1986.

The new telephone no. will be 634161

U.N. asks reparations for Libya after U.S. air raid

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Libya is entitled to compensation for damage and casualties caused by U.S. air raids on its two main cities last April 15, the U.N. General Assembly said in a resolution condemning the military action.

After two days of debate, the world body Thursday approved a resolution initiated by Libya, which first took the issue to the Security Council but was rebuffed there by U.S., British and French vetoes.

The measure passed in the General Assembly — where there is no power of veto — by a vote of 79 to 28, with 33 abstentions. All states were called on to "refrain from extending any assistance or facilities for perpetrating acts of aggression" against Libya, an apparent reference to Britain which let U.S. planes based there join the attack force.

During the debate, Britain was sharply criticised for its

involvement in the assault. The Syrian delegate said the U.N. agenda item should have been titled "aggression by Britain and the United States."

Syrian Ambassador Abdul Moumen Al Atassi disparaged Britain as a weak country whose empire had long since gone and was now a tool of the White House and "Zionist Tel Aviv."

Ali Al Treiki, the Libyan delegate, said some U.S. allies had tried to divert the Assembly from the truth.

He singled out Japan, which he said seemed to have forgotten the U.S. nuclear bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and Britain, which he said was now giving lessons on "how to get

along with the elephant" — the United States.

The United Nations was the conscience of the world, the kind of world that had conquered the British empire, Mr. Treiki said.

In response, British delegate Sir John Thomson rejected the assertion that Britain was an enemy of the Arabs and said it was not borne out by history or the current attitudes of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government.

Thomson repeated British charges of Syrian involvement in the attempted bombing by an Arab gunman of an El Al plane at London airport, saying the evidence was conclusive.

Mr. Atassi replied that Syria opposed terrorism and defied Britain to produce proof of its charges.

The two nations broke diplomatic relations over the airport incident.

Khomeini rules out softening towards U.S.

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has ruled out reconciliation with Washington and says any Iranian officials who seek to improve relations are "satan-oriented."

"I never expected such things from these people," Khomeini, 86, said Thursday at his residence in north Tehran in a speech broadcast by Tehran Radio and monitored in Nicosia.

"This is a time when they should be screaming at America. (But) they are shouting at themselves," Khomeini said in his first public comment on contacts between Washington and Tehran.

He also urged unity within Iran's revolutionary leadership, in which Western observers recently have reported deep divisions.

Without mentioning names, Khomeini criticised Iranian leaders who publicly have demonstrated flexibility toward the United States in recent weeks.

President Ronald Reagan disclosed last week that the United States had made secret diplomatic contacts with Iran over the past 18 months and delivered small amounts of defensive weapons in a bid to improve relations.

Several Iranian leaders, including parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, have spoken of possible reconciliation with the United States, but they have stipulated that Washington first must meet certain conditions, such as releasing weapons bought by the Shah's government but never delivered. The Shah was ousted during the 1979 revolution.

Khomeini, who has the final say in Iran's affairs, responded, "What has come upon you? Where are you going?"

The radio said he was referring to an unidentified group of lawmakers who submitted a letter to Iran's parliament, the Majlis. The broadcast did not disclose the letter's contents, but it apparently urged some sort of dialogue

between Washington and Tehran. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), also monitored in Nicosia, quoted Khomeini as warning the lawmakers, "Is it the time for such an approval of the White House and Reagan?"

He said over Tehran Radio that officials showed softness toward the United States in remarks before the Majlis. "Your tone to the Majlis was more extreme than the tone of Israel," he said.

"Why do you want to create divisions among the heads of the country? Why should we be so Western-oriented or Satan-oriented?" he asked. "You must break our people's hearts. Don't create hardliners and moderates... these are against Islam, against religion, against grace."

Khomeini said the United States "with despair and cries, has now come to the (Iranian) nation and wants to establish ties and apologise for severing relations in 1979 after the Shah was ousted."

But, he said, the Iranian people "does not accept."

Khomeini said Mr. Reagan's remarks last week on contacts with Iran were full of "contradictions, agitation and horror." He did not elaborate.

He reiterated Iranian denials of Mr. Reagan's statement that former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane talked with Iranian officials during a secret visit to Tehran.

Iranian officials who have spoken on the controversy have denied reports that Iranian authorities negotiated with Washington's emissaries. But a formal question put to Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati this week by seven deputies seemed implicitly to confirm the reports.

"It is heard that persons outside the framework of the Foreign Ministry contacted and negotiated with the American delegation," said the question, printed in Resalat newspaper.

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Washington divided over Iran deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some of President Ronald Reagan's most trusted advisers are breaking ranks to stress their opposition to the secret sale of arms to Iran, even as their chief defends his controversial policy.

Mr. Reagan said he authorised secret sales of defensive weapons to Iran to encourage Tehran to intervene with pro-Iranian groups holding American hostages in Lebanon and gain their release.

Secretary of State George Shultz and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger have both made known their opposition to selling weapons to Iran. But Mr. Weinberger did so in a way that suggested Mr. Shultz was disloyal to the president in his manner of dissent.

Former National Security Council adviser Robert McFarlane, singled out by the Weinberger camp as the driving force behind overture to Tehran, says he favoured a diplomatic opening to moderate elements within the Iranian government.

But in a statement issued by his office Thursday, Mr. McFarlane said "it was a mistake" to sell arms because "the result has been 'understandable turmoil that can have a very damaging effect on the ability of our country to lead.'"

"As a senior adviser to the president, I should have anticipated this potential outcome; the failure to do so represents a serious error in judgment for which I accept full responsibility," the statement said.

McFarlane was a member of the administration when the decision

was made to seek a fresh beginning with Iran, but had left the government by the time he accompanied a plane load of military supplies to Tehran.

He says he undertook that mission at the request of Rear Adm. John Poindexter, his successor.

CIA Director William Casey also opposed the arms sale, according to the Washington Post, although the paper said he favoured the president's decision to open contact with officials believed to be moderates within the Iranian government.

But there have also been conflicting printed reports on the role of the CIA in the operation, and Mr. Casey has not gone on record about the Iranian deal.

The effort by several top-level officials to distance themselves from a presidential decision with which they disagreed is not unprecedented in the Reagan administration.

But rarely, if ever, has the president been confronted with such clear opposition from so many quarters of his own administration. He addressed the conflict over the sales of arms to Iran in an opening statement at Wednesday night's news conference.

"This undertaking was a matter of considerable debate within administration circles... several top advisers opposed the sale of even a modest shipment of defensive weapons and spare parts to Iran. Others felt no progress could be made without this sale," he said.

Mr. Shultz has made clear reporters his distress that the operation was carried out without White House officials, with State Department excluded, said a secret operative circumvents the "checks and balances" within the government as well as its "expertise."

Mr. Weinberger's opposition was made known in detail Wednesday by a source who said the secretary thought the idea of developing new ties with Iran was "absurd," and akin to "inviting (Libyan leader Muammar) Qadhafi over for a cozy lunch."

In public, Mr. Weinberger said Wednesday that Mr. Reagan attempted to change the policies the Iranian government was "well justified." But the source who discussed Mr. Weinberger's opposition to the plan said the cabinet officer to discuss the dissent in public — an obvious attempt to distinguish between Mr. Weinberger's approach and the one taken by Mr. Shultz.

This source added that the Iranian policy was largely a work of Mr. McFarlane.

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Moroccan king receives six U.S. congressmen

RABAT (R) — King Hassan has met six United States congressmen amid reports that Morocco is seeking new combat aircraft to replace French Mirage F-1s and American F-5s.

The official Moroccan News Agency (MAP) said the U.S. delegation, led by William Chappell, chairman of the House of Representatives Military Appropriations Sub-Committee, was on a four-day "familiarisation visit."

The congressmen, who have just ended a tour of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation countries, also conferred with Foreign Minister Abdul Latif Filali, who briefed them on the situation in the Western Sahara, the agency said.

Morocco is fighting Polisario

independence guerrillas in the former Spanish colony.

MAP gave no details of what was discussed with King Hassan.

The king has said Morocco plans to spend \$1 billion in five years on modernising its armed forces.

Moroccan sources say negotiations are in progress for the acquisition of Mirage-2000 fighter-bombers to replace the F-1s, and that Rabat also hopes to replace its F-5s with F-16s.

The congressmen arrived after a two-day visit by Edward Aldridge, U.S. Secretary of the Air Force, who left on Tuesday after conferring with General Mohammed Kabbaj, commander of the Moroccan Air Force, according to diplomatic sources.

Arab League Council postpones meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — A meeting of the Arab League Council, scheduled for Monday, has been postponed until further notice, according to the Arabic daily newspaper Sawt Al Shaab.

The postponement decision was taken at the request of the Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kibbi, who is now preoccupied with consultations and preparations for holding an Arab Summit conference, the report added.

The Arab League Council will discuss during its meeting a number of financial and administrative issues of interest to the Arab League General Secretariat.

Austria has no plans to return envoy to Israel

VIENNA (R) — Austria will not send its ambassador back to Israel in the near future as a counter-measure to Israel's decision not to send an ambassador to Vienna, a spokeswoman for Austrian Foreign Minister Peter Jankowitsch has said.

He said Vienna was disappointed by a statement by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that there were no plans to return its ambassador.

Dr. Jankowitsch is accused of having a Nazi past but denies the allegations.

Mr. Jankowitsch declared a new situation had arisen following Peres' statement, the spokesman said.

"For this reason no date has been set for the return of the Austrian ambassador to Tel Aviv," Mr. Jankowitsch was quoted as saying.

Israel recalled its ambassador, Michael Elitzur, on June 9 after the former U.N. secretary-general won Austria's presidential election.

In Israel's first decisive statement on the future of Austrian-Israeli relations after Dr. Waldheim's election Peres said Israel had decided on a lower level diplomatic representation in Vienna.

"To accept a lower-level representation would mean to place in doubt the internationally accepted basis for the development of relations between states," the exchange of ambassadors, Mr. Jankowitsch said.

Austrian ambassador to Tel Aviv, Otto Pleinhardt, was recalled to Vienna for consultations last month while Austria waited for a decision whether Israel would return its own ambassador or not.

Herzog calls for higher priority for Far East

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli President Chaim Herzog returned home from an 18-day tour of Asia and the Pacific Friday and urged his country to give higher priority to the Far East.

He told reporters: "We need a new eastern policy. We need it now."

He said Israel must give more attention to developments in Asia and Oceania but made no detailed suggestions.

The office of president is largely ceremonial and foreign policy is in the hands of the government.

Herzog brushed aside criticism at home of his trip, marred by the cancellation of a visit to the Philippines and by an apparent communications breakdown with the Israeli government.

He said that in the light of political murders in the Philippines he had felt President Corason Aquino faced enough serious problems without having to take care of a visiting head of state.

He had spoken to Mrs. Aquino by telephone and she had said the invitation to Manila remained open at any other time.

Asked by reporters why his visit to Singapore had been shorter than expected, Herzog said his departure before the arrival of Pope John Paul had been intended from the start.

"We left Singapore exactly as planned, in order to be in time for my visit to Sri Lanka, which had been kept secret. No changes in the schedule were made either by myself or by the Singapore authorities," he said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office admitted it forgot to tell the president when it announced that Israel had captured nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu, who gave secrets of its alleged atom bomb programme to a London newspaper.

As a result, Herzog was still denying that Israel knew anything about Vanunu's whereabouts

after his government had admitted it was holding him.

Sri Lanka and Israeli officials said Friday Herzog went sight-seeing and only discussed bilateral issues but no arms sales during his surprise visit to Colombo Thursday.

A spokesman for the Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry said it considered Herzog's six-hour stopover a private affair.

A National Security Ministry spokesman said Herzog only wanted to get acquainted with President Junius Jayewardene. "He later went sight-seeing and did what a normal tourist would do. Arms sales were not discussed."

The visit, at the end of Herzog's tour of Asia and the Pacific, was the first here by an Israeli head of state.

An Israeli official told Reuters the two leaders discussed "general bilateral issues like the ethnic issues in Sri Lanka and... Herzog briefed Mr. Jayewardene on his Asian-Pacific tour."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel 77411-1-14

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30	Koran
15:50	Programme Review
15:55	Cartoons and children programmes
16:30	Traffic Instructions
16:35	Scientific programme (Arabic)
17:00	Local programme
18:00	Teaching French
18:30	Arabic series
19:30	Family programme
20:00	Programme Review
20:05	News in Arabic
20:30	Iraq Newletter
20:45	Arabic series
21:30	World programme
22:00	Tomorrow's programmes
22:05	Arabic film
23:00	News Summary in Arabic
23:10	Film continued

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00	Teaching French
18:30	Les Années Du Monde
19:00	News in French
19:15	La Vallée des Peupliers
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Science World
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	You Again
21:00	Spotlight
21:15	Science - variety show
22:00	News in English
22:20	Feature Film: "One Man Jury"
	Jack Palantine, Christopher Mitchum

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& party on 9180 KHz. SW

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07:00	Light Music
07:30	Arabic Songs
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
10:05	Morning Show Continued
11:00	The Music in the House
12:00	News Summary
12:05	Readings
12:30	Pop Session
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Pop Session continued
14:00	News Bulletin
14:15	Jordan Weekly
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	Instrumental Show
17:00	Magazine/ Old Favorites
17:05	Special Feature
17:30	Music
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Top Twenty
18:05	News Desk

19:30	Date with a Star
20:30	Now Music
21:00	Just a Minute
21:00	News Summary
21:05	Hillside: The Story of Mowena
22:00	News Summary
22:05	In Concert
23:00	Country Music
24:00	Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1233 KHz

06:00	Newsdesk 06:30 Here's the Humph
06:45	Reflections 6:50 Financial News
07:00	World News 07:09 24 Hours;
07:05	News Summary About 07:10
07:45	The World Today 08:00
08:00	Newsdesk 08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News
09:09	24 Hours; News Summary
09:15	The World Today 09:30
10:00	World News 10:09
10:09	Reflections 10:15 Tenor and Baritone
11:05	World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30
11:30	Financial News; Look Ahead 11:45
12:00	About Britain 12:09 News Summary; Here's the Humph 12:15 Letter from America 12:30 Reporters' Roundup
12:30	Letter from the World 12:40 World News 13:09
13:09	News About Britain 13:15
13:15	European Cabaret Songs 13:30
13:30	Radio 1 14:00 Radio 2 14:00
14:00	Multitrack 14:45 Sports Round-up
15:00	World News 15:09 24 Hours News Summary 15:30
15:30	Albion Time 15:45
15:45	Country Style 16:00 News Summary
16:00	Music Now 16:30 Network Time 17:00
17:00	Radio Newsworld 17:15 Saturday Special 18:00
18:00	World News 18:15 Saturday Special 18:30 News Summary
18:30	Special 19:09 Book Choice 19:30 News Summary; Saturday Special 19:45
19:45	Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk

VOICE OF AMERICA

1200 MW, 7200, 956; 1740 11025
and 15210 KHz

05:00	News. Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Reports, Sports News at 30 minute past the hour. Focus, Sunday Morning 8:10. Close Up, Saturday Morning at 8:10, 17:00, 17:10 This Week 17:30, 17:45
17:45	Confederate USA 18:00 News 18:10 American Viewpoints 18:30
18:30	English News and Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsdesk 19:30
19:30	20:00 News 20:10 Close-up 20:30
20:30	Special English News & Features 21:00
21:00	News 21:10 American Viewpoints 21:30
21:30	Press Conference USA 22:00 News and Features 22:10
22:10	Confederate USA Jazz 23:00
23:00	News 23:10 Weekend

NEWS IN BRIEF

Decree okays public security promotions

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree has been issued approving the promotion of 101 public security officers. The promotions included Brigadier Mohammad Yousef Obeidat, Assistant Public Security Director for Legal Affairs, who has been promoted to Major General. Assistant Public Security Director for Administration Brigadier Ghazi Jarrar was also promoted to Major General.

Mahafza appointed to education council

AMMAN (Petra) — Mr. 'Abd al-Hamid Mahafza has been appointed by the Cabinet as a member of the education council. The Cabinet also decided to renew the council membership of Dr. 'Abdul Salam Al Majali, president of the University of Jordan, and Dr. Isma' al Farhan and Mr. Bashir Sabagh.

Humanitarian body honours Abu Qoura

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of directors of the international humanitarian law foundation in San Remo, Italy, has awarded Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, chairman of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS), an honorary diploma in recognition of his distinguished role in developing and promoting the principles of international humanitarian law and human rights and in appreciation of the JNRCS role in this field. Dr. Abu Qoura received the diploma on Thursday from the foundation's president during the sessions of the Arab conference on international humanitarian law currently being held in Amman. Dr. Abu Qoura is also the chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross.

Reagan accused of violating law

(Continued from page 1) president should lay it out in his state of the union message. Robert McFarlane, former national security adviser, in a speech Thursday in Gaithersburg, Maryland, contradicted Mr. Shultz's assertion that he knew very little about the operation. "I told him repeatedly and often of every item that went on in this enterprise," Mr. McFarlane said. Mr. McFarlane said later he made "a serious error in judgement" in counselling President Reagan to sell a plan of arms transfer to Iran. Mr. McFarlane, who served as an emissary for the arms deal, said his proposal to sell the arms as a way to renew a relationship with Iran was "well-meaning and defensible." But in a statement issued Thursday, he added: "To the extent that the introduction of arms transfers into the process has led to understandable turmoil that can have a very damaging effect on the ability of our country to lead, it was a mistake. As a senior adviser to the president, I should have anticipated this potential outcome; the failure to do so represents a serious error in judgement for which I accept full responsibility."

Mr. Reagan did not fare much better with the public, according to a poll conducted by ABC news released Thursday. The survey of 508 randomly selected people showed that 59 per cent did not believe the president's statements about Iran. The telephone poll, conducted after a news conference held by Mr. Reagan on Wednesday, had a margin of error plus or minus five percentage points.

Charles Redman, State Department spokesman, said Thursday that Mr. Shultz was "involved in the general policy considerations" concerning the president's diplomatic initiative with Iran. He said again that the secretary was not directly involved, but that "he was consulted on the general policy."

The spokesman told questioners seeking more details of the secretary's role that "I've never attempted to give you a calendar, a checklist of when and what he (Mr. Shultz) was consulted on, and I'm not in a position to do it today."

Redman noted that the secretary does not comment on the advice he gives to the president. "We don't comment on the internal workings of the process," he said when repeatedly asked for details of Mr. Shultz's role and advice in the Iranian matter.

Mr. Byrd said Mr. Shultz should "conduct an internal review from the top down to determine how this foreign policy works and the

Egyptian speaker back in Cairo after five day visit to Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Rifaat Al Mahjoub, speaker of the Egyptian People's Council, and his accompanying delegation have returned to Cairo after a five-day visit to Jordan during which they were received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and other Jordanian government officials.

In a pre-departure statement at Amman airport, Dr. Mahjoub said that his talks in Jordan were characterised by similar views held by Jordan and Egypt in matters concerning the Arab nation and that his discussions helped to bolster bilateral ties. Egypt is keen on maintaining an exchange of visits by officials from Jordan and Egypt because they open the way for further strengthening bilateral ties, Dr. Mahjoub continued.

Referring to economic cooperation, Dr. Mahjoub said that the two countries were pursuing efforts to boost agricultural, industrial and trade ties and he announced that the first shipment of Jordanian cement was now on its way to Egypt.

During the visit, Dr. Mahjoub and his parliamentary delegation toured Jordanian economic centres and business cocoons and the speaker said that bilateral cooperation is bound to benefit

the peoples of both countries. Cooperation in the economic field, he added, will be enhanced through the Jordanian-Egyptian holding company which is implementing a variety of projects in both countries.

Dr. Mahjoub and his delegation were seen off at the airport by Mr. Fayez and heads of the financial, legal and occupied territories committees in the Lower House of Parliament and Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ehab Wahbeh.

Mr. Lawzi hosted a banquet at the Regency Palace Hotel in Amman in honour of the visiting Egyptian delegation. The banquet was attended by senior government officials and prominent members of Parliament.

Soviet delegation to inspect development projects in Aqaba

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation representing the federal of Soviet societies will Saturday visit the Aqaba-based Jordan fertilisers industries company (JFIC) and other industrial projects in the city to obtain first-hand information about Jordan's development. The delegation, which is in charge of promoting cultural and friendly ties with foreign nations, on Friday visited Petra.

On Thursday, the visiting delegation held talks with Mr. Bahjat Talhoumi, president of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, on means to further promote bilateral relations and to review Arab and world issues.

Mr. Talhoumi, who is also a member of the Upper House of Parliament, welcomed the delegation and praised the strong

ties which bind Jordan and the Soviet Union. He also voiced Jordan's appreciation to the Soviet Union for its support of just Arab struggle and Arab rights.

The head of the Soviet delegation, Mr. Yuri Barchev, reiterated his country's call for the establishment of world peace, the curtailment of nuclear arms and Moscow's continued and staunch support for Arab struggles, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The Soviet delegation arrived in Amman on Wednesday on a week-long visit and a tour of various sites in the country. The 18-member delegation groups representatives of scientific, engineering and academic institutions in the Soviet Union.

CAEU ministers to review planning for Arab integration

AMMAN (Petra) — Planning ministers in the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) member countries will open a meeting here on Monday to discuss planning and coordinating development to achieve Arab economic integration. Three major documents will be discussed during this meeting dealing with integration and coordination among individual countries' development plans, the Arab Common Market and joint Arab projects.

The documents also deal with coordination of present and future integrated Arab development.

Anti-Arab violence continues

(Continued from page 1) anyone stopping them." Ran Cohen, of the Citizens' Rights Movement, was hit in the head by protesters on his way to pay a condolence call on the family of the killed Israeli youth.

"They attacked me with sticks and called me a Nazi. I got it in the head and lots of blood came out. In all the wars I've fought in, our enemies never made me bleed, but these vulgar did," Mr. Cohen told Israeli Radio.

Police reported four firebomb attacks on homes in the Sheikh Jarrah quarter but said there were no injuries or damage.

Palestinians seize truce positions

(Continued from page 1) fighting cautioned, Israeli helicopters and gunboats have been in action again in South Lebanon.

Police said two Israeli gunships fired four rockets at the port area of the southern city of Sidon, destroying a fishing boat and wounding three people, including a 10-year old boy. The attack was the third on the Sidon area in five days. Nine people were wounded in attacks on Sunday and Monday.

The helicopters took off from a warship cruising off the Sidon shore and flew back to it after Thursday's attack, the Israeli 16th on Lebanese territory this year.

An Israeli army statement claimed the boat blasted by the helicopters had been used by Palestinian fighters in Sidon. It said all helicopters returned safely to base.

Lebanese militiamen and Palestinian fighters fired 23-millimetre anti-aircraft guns and rocket-propelled grenades at the four helicopters, but no scores were reported, a police spokesman in Sidon said.

Jordan and Syria reach agreement on agricultural trade exchange

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Syria have reached agreement on the exchange of agricultural products and have entrusted the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) and the Syrian company for vegetables and fruit to handle the exchange of crops between the two countries in accordance with an agreement concluded in Amman on Thursday.

Under the agreement, AMPCO will export Jordanian agricultural crops, largely tomatoes, eggplants and marrows, to Syria and will import potatoes, garlic and onions from Syria for the Jordanian market.

Both companies have been entrusted to conclude other deals whenever necessary and in agreement with the authorities in both countries.

Also under the agreement, the Syrian company will stop shipping onions for the Jordanian market from now until Dec. 5 and will later export the remainder of the 2,000 tonnes of onions agreed upon, provided they are of the quality specified in an earlier agreement. AMPCO will carry out contacts for selling Syrian onions to any markets of its own choice for prices to be agreed on and will deduct the price from the Syrian company's debts to AMPCO.

The agreement was signed for AMPCO by Mr. Ghazi Abu Hassan, the company's director general, and for the Syrian company by its general manager, Mohammad Samir Abdul Dayem.

Following the signing ceremony, Mr. Abu Hassan said that the agreement was designed to bolster cooperation between the two countries and to serve the interests of consumers and farmers in Jordan and Syria. AMPCO is keen to overcome all obstacles which might impede the implementation of any trade agreement with Syria, Mr. Abu Hassan said.

Mr. Abdul Dayem said that Syria was keen on bolstering cooperation between the two companies.

He paid tribute to the quality of Jordanian commodities which are marketed in Syria and said that his company will honour its commitments and will do its utmost to serve the interests of farmers and consumers in both countries.

According to Mr. Abdul Dayem, the meeting was one of a series of meetings which representatives of both countries hold annually in Amman and Damascus to assess their bilateral cooperation and trade exchange.

He said that Jordan is purchasing potato seeds produced in Syria and AMPCO will sell them to Jordanian farmers.

WAJ moving ahead with water, sewerage projects in all areas

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary General of the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) Mahmoud Al Talhoumi has said that the authority is following a well-planned policy to upgrade health, social and economic standards through the provision of safe water and water for industrial and agricultural purposes, particularly in the rural areas.

He said that the authority has adopted a plan for implementing sewerage projects and purification stations to cover all residential areas with a population of at least 2,500 in addition to the various cities, villages, camps and the Jordan Valley.

Outlining the authority's projects in the fields of water treatment stations and sanitary drainage in the main cities of Jordan, Mr. Talhoumi said the authority has started implementing projects in Amman and that three major projects are currently underway in the capital.

The total cost of the three projects, which are expected to be completed by mid 1987, are approximately JD 15 million.

Mr. Talhoumi added that WAJ will float tenders for the construction of sewerage projects in the South and North Azraq areas to protect ground water reserves in that area as they are one of the major water resources for Amman and the neighbouring areas.

Reviewing WAJ projects in Irbid Governorate, Mr. Talhoumi said that the authority is currently implementing many projects, including a purification station with a capacity of 12,000 cubic metres in addition to the construction of a 200-kilometre long main and sub network for sanitary drainage at the cost of JD 11.5 million. He added that the authority is currently constructing a purification station in Sal to serve Irbid and the neighbouring areas, in addition to the construction of a sewerage network extended 400 kilometres.

The authority is also constructing a sewerage project in Ramtha, including a 65-kilometre sanitary drainage network and a water treatment station with a capacity of 1920 cubic metres.

In Mafrq, he said, the authority is currently constructing a JD 2,500,000 sewerage project, which includes 63 kilometres of sanitary drainage networks. Another JD 3 million is being spent on a sewerage project for Kafranja, Ajloun, Anjara and Ain Janna which will be constructed soon.

Mr. Talhoumi also said that the authority has allocated JD 14 million to construct water treatment plants, purification stations and sanitary drainage networks.

The authority's projects and plans are aimed at providing all citizens with drinking water and constructing sanitary drainage networks to take wastewater to purification stations where it will be treated and utilised for agricultural projects.

Italian chief of staff continues tour of historic, military sites

AMMAN (J.T.) — Italian Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Riccardo Bisognhero on Friday visited the ancient city of Petra and toured its various historical and archaeological sites. Later in the evening, Italian Ambassador to Jordan Luigi Amaduzzi hosted a dinner in honour of the Italian general. The dinner was attended by senior Jordanian military officials and members of the accompanying delegation.

General Bisognhero, who arrived here on Wednesday, hours after Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini left Amman for Rome, is scheduled to visit the King Hussein Medical Centre, the Royal Jordanian Staff College as well as the Royal Jordanian War College on Saturday.

The Italian general and the accompanying delegation are due to leave Amman on Sunday. Earlier on Thursday, General Bisognhero visited the forward positions of the 12th Royal Mechanised Division and met with its commander and troops. During the visit, the Italian general was briefed on the responsibilities of the troops in their position. He later visited the Al Hussein military workshops and was briefed on the maintenance and construction programmes. He also toured one of the Royal Jordanian airbases and was briefed on its duties.

Parents accuse each other of burning young son to death

AMMAN (J.T.) — An eight-year old Jordanian boy, identified as M.A.A., has been burnt to death by his parents, according to a report appearing in the local press.

During police questioning, the mother said that her husband had burnt the child to death after tying the boy's legs and hands together with a rope and hanging him from the ceiling of a room which was

under construction. The mother said that after her son had been tied to the ceiling, the father hit him brutally, covered the child with gasoline and set him on fire.

The father, however, gave a different account to the police and said that his wife was the one who set the boy on fire. The man said he had only hit his son because the boy was hardly ever at home.

Demand for fish rising steadily but local production remains very low

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan last year consumed 3,225 tonnes of fresh and frozen fish and 2,963 tonnes of canned fish but only produced a total of 90 tonnes from its lakes, pools and rivers, according to Dr. Mohammad Ya'qoub Al Abbadi, director of the Animal Wealth Department at the Ministry of Agriculture.

Dr. Abbadi said that Jordan should dramatically increase its fish production in both salt and fresh water in order to meet the growing demand for fish, which is rich in protein, minerals and natural oils. He said that intensive efforts are required in this respect because the average rate of individual fish consumption in Jordan is 2.3 kilograms annually and this is rising steadily, although it is far less than the annual world average consumption of 18 kilograms.

Dr. Abbadi told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the cost of producing a kilogramme of fish should not exceed 600 fils and that it can fetch a market price of JD 1 to JD 1.5 per kilo, making fish farming a lucrative venture. But, he said, sufficient water and a suitable piece of land are required and a feasibility study on the project should be conducted before any further steps can be

taken. Fish production can be done in large pools set up on several dunums of land where fish breed feeding on different types of feed, he continued. Dr. Abbadi said this type of fish breeding requires 24 hour supervision, especially in the initial stages to ensure that the temperature and other environmental factors are constant.

Before embarking on the project, those involved should make sure that the water supplies contain no acids or other elements, such as ammonia, copper, mercury or zinc or even pesticides which may poison or kill the fish, Dr. Abbadi pointed out.

He also said that different types of fish breed at different temperatures and some breed well in salty water. Jordan, Dr. Abbadi said, lacks salt water fish, and the local production comes from fresh water rivers and pools which should be warm enough for the fish.

Apart from their nutritional value, fish can be useful in helping to eliminate bilharzia and malaria because the fish feed on snails in the water and mosquitoes which settle on the surface of the water, Dr. Abbadi added.

Referring to fish production in Jordan, Dr. Abbadi said that the largest fish farms are in the Jordan Valley where the water is warm enough for breeding and rearing. At present, most of the local production comes from the Arab Fish Company in the Jordan Valley, which is owned by the Pension Fund, the Social Security Corporation and the Jordan Economic and Social Organisation for Retired Servicemen. The company breeds and rears the fish in 42 pools which are supplied with water from the River Jordan which is constantly oxygenated.

In the experimental stage, which started in 1984, the company produced 40 tonnes of fish a year but this year it produced a total of 60 tonnes, according to Dr. Abbadi. He said that production is expected to rise to 200 tonnes in the coming year.

According to Mr. Ahmad Al Lahham, a member of the company's board, the project requires 1,200 cubic metres of water per hour and is being operated on a 17 dunum piece of land. He said that the total capital involved in the project was JD 650,000 and that the production is mostly sold in the Jordanian market.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Peres manipulates the truth

WE are surprised at the former Israeli prime minister's ability to fabricate lies and falsehoods about the situation in the Middle East and the manner in which he tries to cover up for Israel's illegal actions and repressive measures. Peres told a Dutch parliamentary delegation visiting Israel that the Alexandria summit he held with President Mubarak has laid the ground for a new phase in the peace process, and that the general economic conditions in the occupied Arab territories were good and that Tel Aviv continues to exert efforts to establish peace in the Middle East. But it is a well-known fact that Israel continues to reject Jordan's proposals for a comprehensive peace and that the economic conditions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are continuously deteriorating and that Israel is pursuing an aggressive policy not only within the occupied areas but also towards its neighbouring Arab countries. Jordan, realising the pitiable conditions of the Arab population under Israeli occupation, is embarking on a five-year development plan to stimulate the Arab territories' economic and social life, and also to enable the Arab people of Palestine to withstand Israel's oppression. Israel continues to place obstacles in the path of peace and continues to block all attempts for arriving at a lasting peace settlement. Above all Israel continues to reject the idea of an international peace conference that could bring peace to the Middle East and restore the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

Al Dustour: Herzog's unsuccessful attempt

ISRAEL'S President Chaim Herzog has just concluded an 18-day tour abroad in a bid to brighten Israel's image and to win friends for the Jewish state. Herzog has tried his hand in making political gains in some of the distant islands and territories of Asia, in the Indian Ocean and Sri Lanka and in Singapore with promises of help from Israel and technical, agricultural services to a number of countries. But this attempt at infiltrating these countries can never help achieve Israel's purpose, because those Asian countries have rejected Israel's presence amongst them and continue to bar Tel Aviv's attempts of infiltration into the communities. The tour might have won Israel only very feeble gains especially if technical help was promised to a number of the poorer states in Herzog's itinerary. The tour was, as the Arabs can see, an attempt for gaining a foothold for the Jewish state in the Asian continent, although the visits included marginal areas and a number of islands. The Arabs however, should not remain idle but should foil all Israeli endeavours of winning over any friends in Asia and Africa that might permit Israeli infiltration into the two continents. We call for an intensification of efforts to drive away all Israeli diplomatic efforts in Asia, in Africa or in the islands surrounding the two continents.

Sawt Al Shaab: Summit badly needed

WE once again witness a fresh attempt on the part of certain Arab states to prepare the ground for an Arab summit meeting. Once again we see the Arab League secretary general roving about, trying to rally the Arabs and to lay the ground for a successful parley that can handle Arab issues and help lead to a joint Arab action. The Arabs are badly in need of such a summit meeting under the present circumstances and in view of the dangers threatening their nation. The Arabs are still plagued by the Lebanese crisis, the Iran-Iraq war, and the Palestine problem which is the core of the Middle East question. We can hardly see any way of resolving these issues except through an Arab summit and by implementing proposals which Jordan has been advocating and which aim at the achievement of a lasting solution. Only an Arab summit can find a proper remedy for many of the Arab Nation's ills on the economic and political levels. Jordan has been a staunch advocate of an Arab summit and a meeting by Arab leaders who alone have the final say in matters of destiny for their nation. For Jordan, solidarity among Arab states is a matter of paramount importance and this solidarity is bound to be enhanced through a summit and through a concerted will and firm Arab stand.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Rifai regrets U.S.-Iran dealings

IN a very strong statement, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has expressed regret at Washington's decision to sell arms to Iran. Mr. Rifai said that the arms deal contradicts official American policy and can only harm America's credibility. This statement reflects the Arab Nation's feelings and also the disappointment of Washington's own friends and even those among the U.S. administration who do not condone such action. In his statement carried by the Associated Press, Mr. Rifai said that the United States ought to adopt a balanced attitude in these questions, and a similar policy in dealing with the Arabs and Israel if it aims at regaining its credibility in the Middle East region. The prime minister pointed out that Washington's decision to sell weapons to Iran to fuel the Gulf war while denying any arms shipments to America's claim of being keen on maintaining stability in the Arab region. Declared American policies are not always reflected in Washington's actions, and this is very dangerous indeed to international relations. If the United States abandons this underhand dealing in its relations with its friends, then no doubt it will be on the right course for enhancing the cause of peace and redressing the damage that has been inflicted to America's credibility around the world.

Al Dustour: A unified Arab stand urged

WASHINGTON'S decision to supply Iran with weapons entails grave dangers and is bound to fuel the six year old Gulf conflict. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai reflected Jordan's, as well as the Arab Nation's, views when he said that this development is a grave one and contradicts Washington's declared policies. The disclosure of the arms deals with Iran places the Arabs face to face with a new dangerous situation and prompts them to re-examine their position vis-a-vis the Iran-Iraq war now that it has become clear that the United States and Israel are both feeding the Iranian war machinery for killing the Arabs and devastating their homeland. Some Arabs had in the past refused to believe that Iran was closely cooperating with Israel and receiving weapons from Tel Aviv. Now that everything has been exposed and it has become clear that the Iranians were in collusion with Israel and certain Western nations, the Arabs must take a new stand and declare an all out support for Iraq and extend all possible help to that country to enable it to repel aggression.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

The Arab World: Major issues

By Dr. Kamel S. Abu Jaber

ONCE we were the land of objectivity, science, and the scientific method. A land where our faith encouraged the pursuit of knowledge and practical scientific methodology leading to the posing of the proper questions and the search for the appropriate answers. Posing the right questions is just as important as reaching the right conclusions. Proper questions need to be truly objective and open ended, this demands certain prerequisites: that the mind be free of the shackles a given society tries to impose on it. It also demands the presence in the atmosphere of a certain amount of liberality. It requires a generous amount of tolerance on the part of the society and the state, for often the intolerance of the society is more effective in stifling thought than that of the state. The intolerance of the state is linear, single-minded and one directional; that of the society is multi-faceted, on several levels, and in different directions at the same time. The creation of the right atmosphere then is the major prerequisite for meeting the civilisational challenge before us. Should such an atmosphere not be forthcoming little else would change, for thought is the yeast necessary for the rise of civilisations and its absence results in stagnation leading to disease and eventual death in acute cases.

The second prerequisite rests with the leadership of the society. Political scientists, sociologists, and other social scientists have, for a long time pondered this issue. From Plato through Ibn Khaldoun, Al Farabi, St. Thomas Aquinas, John Locke, Rousseau or Karl Marx, the question of leadership has been considered. Also under deliberation has been whether greater impetus to the rise and fall of the fortunes of a given society emanates from the people or from the leadership. A near consensus exists that it is leadership that creates

the proper atmosphere, or the example leading to development. In this context we ought to remember that once a person assumes the stature of a leader with the real qualifications of a truly gifted and inspiring one, and not that of a mimic aspiring through cajolery or force or both, to the position, that person is at once removed from the ranks of the people. Also to be remembered is that a true national leader makes the position and not the other way around. The presence or absence of such a person is pivotal to the question of development of the society. For a leader not only creates inspiration, direction and atmosphere but creates the necessary accompanying leaders to move the society.

Such leadership does not, unfortunately, come often to a nation. The great German sociologist Max Weber while an admirer of such charismatic leadership cautions that nations should not depend too much on their incidence and thus should attempt to create the atmosphere for its creation. With the exception of Jordan, since the beginning of this century, the Arab World has had few such inspired leaders.

In addition to the above two factors — liberal atmosphere and good leadership — a society needs to plan. In the condition of Arab society now, planning seems impossible. I say seems because planning, like all else in real life is relative. Relative in that while it should take stock of what exists in terms of material and human resources, it should be flexible enough to accommodate itself to the existing society. Planning is the better control and husbandry of the resources of a given society to enable it to achieve its goals with the minimum of price and pain. Planning for a nation composed of

twenty-two entities is of course more difficult. But then what is meant by planning here?

If what we mean by planning is that the twenty-two entities be in total agreement on everything at all times, then we are demanding the impossible. The first prerequisite of planning is the real pragmatic assessment of what exists and the second step is to prod it in the right direction. The twenty-two entities exist regardless of the wish for total unity which has proven itself the more elusive of the popular and intellectual demand for it increases. That, in spite of wishes or wishful thinking, has been the case since the advent of this century and the recognition of this fact seems to be the first step towards planning. While the goal of unity must and should be maintained as a strategic goal, other intermediate steps can be taken. Rejection or acceptance in real life should not be of totalities but in parts and the creature, any creature whether animate or social like a given society, with the best chance of survival is the one which adapts to its environment until it can control it. Planning should be done in stages and at several dimensions at the same time. Political planning for instance should take into account the present realities and should concentrate on prodding the twenty-two entities not towards total agreement, but initially at least, towards achievable goals, broad objectives and the creation of a framework through which differences can be resolved, internally, peacefully and with the least cost. Military, social, economic, educational planning and drawing up of a strategy should follow the same path. The question is not that of either or, but that of where a compromise can be struck. We can start by building connecting highways, one feet, one Arab airline...

Mordechai Vanunu — defector or disinformant?

By Yezid Sayigh

WHEN the London *Sunday Times* ran a special insight feature on Israel's nuclear programme at Dimona, it all seemed perfectly straightforward. An Israeli technician, Mordechai Vanunu, had provided photographs and a personal account of the existence and activities of a secret production plant — decisive proof that Israel was not only capable of producing nuclear weapons, but had actually done so. Yet the report raised many more questions than it claimed to answer.

Why, to begin with, should Vanunu have decided to reveal all he knew about the Israeli nuclear effort to the world — an act of treason that would entail enormous psychological agonising, not to mention social ostracism and the certainty of a lifetime of hiding in exile? All the *Sunday Times* suggested was that he had been made redundant for having hobbled with Arab students at university, hardly sufficient cause to embark on such a course. But how did he come to smuggle a camera into the plant and take a staggering 60 photographs (entirely unnoticed) even before he had been fired? Possibly he was already planning a dramatic revelation. And possibly he was allowed to make one.

There are other loose ends. Why was Vanunu recruited into the Dimona workforce with no real security vetting — in a country so paranoid about secrecy that a straying Israeli mystic fighter jet was shot down over Dimona in 1967, with its pilot being subjected to intense grilling and accused of spying for the Arabs? And why was Vanunu immediately employed in the

ultra-sensitive Machon 2, the main plant for the separation and enrichment of radioactive matter and for the production of bomb components?

Soon after the story had broken, the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* ran an editorial about the disinformation campaign between the superpowers, involving the use of fake defectors. As if to provide an example, Vanunu disappeared from London and his friends believe he was captured by Mossad, the Israeli intelligence agency, and brought back to Israel to stand trial, fuelling local speculation that he was indeed a bogus defector who would be quietly reinstated into normal society. Indeed, both Vanunu's emergence into the news and his sudden disappearance were bizarre. For someone who had planned it so carefully as to provide photographic evidence, his attempts to publicise his story were clumsy, even reluctant. And despite his protestations to the contrary, he was singularly lax about personal security: several people knew he had the story and would release it, even before the events; he also allowed the *Insight* team to present the Israeli embassy in London with a copy of his passport and statement for verification. Conversely, once the story was out, it was impossible for other people to contact him and draw their own conclusions — he was inaccessible to all but the *Sunday Times*, and only belatedly, to Mossad.

So much for detective work. The real case for doubting the *Sunday Times* report lies not in questioning Vanunu's authenticity but in studying the nature of the information he has provided about Israel's nuclear efforts. Not that it is untrue; but that it is not news. It may seem impressive to have what purports to be concrete proof of Israel's nuclear weapons programme, but what is remarkable is that in providing so much evidence, Vanunu failed to reveal anything that was not already known about it. Was this accident or design?

Most important, virtually all Vanunu's technical information relates to the process by which enriched uranium and plutonium are produced, and to other system design aspects. This is information readily available to any nuclear technician or scientist. In stark contrast to the voluminous, detailed information that Vanunu does provide, he is inexplicably, but consistently, uninformed on any aspects of Israeli nuclear capabilities which the world community does not already know about.

What bomb design is used, for use on what delivery system (rocket, gun or aircraft), and what is the mix of weapons-grade radioactive fuel used in making the warheads? The answers to such questions would reveal much about Israel's real nuclear capabilities in war: bomb type and size determine the means of delivery, in turn affecting range; warhead design and composition determine how "clean" a bomb is — that is, how completely the radioactive matter detonates and thus how powerful the explosion — and the extent of fallout; and finally, the ability to manufacture small, compact warheads allows a wider range of applications — from major "strategic" strikes against Arab cities to limited "tactical" strikes against specific military targets. Most significant is

the absence of technological information revealing Israel's ability to control the size of an explosion and its resultant fallout — without such an ability, any use by Israel of nuclear weapons against nearby targets risks irradiating its own population and territory.

Of course, Vanunu cannot be expected to know everything. But he participated in the production of weapons-grade matter, and in the manufacture of bombs, or at least had direct access to the process and its products, as his photographs and testimony show. For example, Vanunu offers precise figures on the weight of plutonium produced, and on the use of tritium, lithium 6, and deuterium in weapons manufacture. He has also photographed bomb parts. So he would know the approximate dimensions of such weapons, their explosive mix, and their design (type of detonator, whether they implode or explode, and so on). Anyone working in the plant for nine years could make an educated guess: a year ago, a visiting American scientist saw an Israeli nuclear warhead; it was approximately two feet long, 18-20 inches in diameter, and 226 pounds in weight (*Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 10, 1985). This was the first real indication that Israel possessed the technological know-how for miniaturisation, essential to adapting nuclear bombs for rockets and artillery. Yet Vanunu mentions nothing so revealing.

In summary, the gaps in Vanunu's story and his convenient disappearance suggest Israeli disinformation. If this is so, then the reported six-fold expansion of

Dimona's reactor output, and the supposed production of tritium may be deliberate fabrications, aimed at convincing the Arabs of even more awesome power than Israel actually possesses. But why such a ploy now?

There have long been two schools of thought in Israel with respect to nuclear power. One calls for an overt stance, on the basis that declared possession of nuclear weapons will form a more effective deterrent to the Arabs and may even compel them to seek peace with Israel. The dominant, "home in the basement" school believes firstly that Israel will suffer from international censure if it openly introduces nuclear weapons into the Middle East, and secondly that such an act will provide the Arabs with a pretext for obtaining their own bomb. As crucially, an official Israeli deterrent would provide the USSR with the excuse to base its own nuclear weapons on Arab soil, under the guise of protecting its allies in accordance with friendship and defence treaties. A bomb in the basement, conversely, would allow Israel to protest a "no first introduction, no first use" policy to the West, yet sow fears in Arab minds with occasional hints and leaks that would leave Israel's real nuclear status in doubt.

Since 1980, the nuclear debate in Israel has intensified, with more people calling for a formal deterrence policy. The temptation to resort to an overt posture has been strengthened by three factors. First, the 1982 Lebanon war showed Israel's inability to create political facts through conventional military means. Second, despite its overwhelming

technology and numerical superiority and its control of the air in 1982, the Israeli army advance repeatedly got bogged down in the face of Palestinian and Syrian resistance. Third, as the cost of developing, purchasing and maintaining modern weapon systems spirals, Israel's economic crisis has forced it to cut defence expenditure. In short, a nuclear strategy offers an ultimate means to break the Arabs' political will to weapon to overturn the military balance and end battlefield stagnation, and a way of reducing conventional forces and saving the economy without weakening national security.

Vanunu's story tends to provide Israel with the advantages of an overt nuclear posture, while avoiding the disadvantages. His testimony comes closest to an official declaration without being one, and should have a strong deterrent effect on the Arabs. Yet in the absence of an official Israeli declaration, the Arabs have insufficient pretext to declare a specifically military nuclear programme of their own. Nor does (yet another) newspaper report provide enough incentive for Arab joint action or a resort to Soviet weapons.

On the assumption that the Vanunu incident is indeed bogus, then what remains to be seen is whether his story was a centrally-sanctioned ploy, promoted by a leadership hoping to reduce the need for an overt deterrent by making it all but official, or whether it was a leak by certain Israeli factions hoping to force the leadership's hand and render the debate redundant — Middle East International, London.

Muslim groups grow stronger in the Egyptian town of Assiut

By Ahmed Shawki

Reuters

ASSIUT, Egypt — Riot police with machineguns guard the mosques and churches of this south Egyptian city where militant groups of Islamic fundamentalists have lately been gaining strength.

Police have no firm figures of the build-up in their numbers evident here some weeks past. But they confirm that the Muslim fundamentalists, who want an Egypt governed exclusively by the precepts of Islamic law, have been moving in to Assiut from neighbouring areas.

Security here has been stepped up since clashes last month between demonstrating militants and the police led to two deaths.

Nightly foot patrols and truckloads of armed police moving at night have become a commonplace sight here.

The militants view Assiut as a centre from which an Islamic revolution could spread. "We will strengthen our position here and will gradually move to other cities. Islam will win in the end," one of them told Reuters.

"The authorities may win a battle today, but tomorrow is ours."

The man, who said he belonged to one of the clandestine "Islamic societies" which form a loosely coordinated nationwide movement, declined to be named. Like many fundamentalists, he wore a beard.

The reputation of this university town on the Nile River, 350 km south of Cairo, as a fundamentalist stronghold is not new.

After members of the Al Jihad (holy war) group assassinated president Anwar Sadat in 1981, extremists attacked government offices here in an Islamic rebellion which government forces swiftly put down.

Hundreds of militants faced

trial. Some are still serving jail sentences, while others, who either completed prison terms or were acquitted, have returned or have moved to Assiut, government officials say.

Newly-enlisted fundamentalists are also moving in.

Assiut is sensitive not only because of its fundamentalist history, but also because it has a large number of indigenous Coptic Christians among its 500,000 people.

Residents say some Copts have moved away in recent years for fear of trouble, and Christians in Assiut governorate — who once outnumbered Muslims — now form only 40 per cent of the region's 2.5 million population.

This is, however, a much higher proportion than the number of Christians in Egypt as a whole — an estimated six or seven million, or 12 per cent, of the 51 million population.

Assiut Governor General Mamdouh Zaki, appointed a month ago to tackle one of Egypt's toughest administrative jobs, told Reuters in an interview that the situation was under control and there had been no clashes between Muslims and Copts.

"We all live in peace," Zaki said. But echoing statements by ministers in Cairo, he said anti-government activities would be dealt with firmly. "We will crush any hostilities decisively."

President Hosni Mubarak's moderate government says Islamic law, or Sharia, is one of the bases of Egypt's legislation. But it has vowed to clamp down on extremism and remains armed with emergency powers enforced after Sadat's assassination.

Pursuing an uncompromising official line, Zaki recently issued orders placing all mosques under government control, including one which has long been run by fundamentalists in the centre of town, and banning meetings inside mosques.

Clashes flared last month between riot police and Muslims protesting against the decision. Two people were killed and more than 120 were injured.

Zaki said 54 people, mostly university students, were arrested after the riots and were being interrogated on charges of instigating trouble.

The police action against the demonstrators showed that "the government is serious and will deal harshly with troublemakers," he said.

Fundamentalists say the increased police presence is a provocation. "They want to provoke us to find an excuse to crush us," one student said. "We are not at war," another added. "We don't need all these armed policemen in the streets."

Assiut University President Abdul Razek Hassan disagreed, saying the police were needed "to make us all feel safe."

He said some of his 40,000 students, from all over southern Egypt, thought religion could provide a solution for the country's economic problems.

"Most of the students are very poor and thus can easily be deceived," he told Reuters.

Hassan said he would not allow political activities on the campus, and 50 extremists were recently dismissed from the university hostel for trying to stir trouble.

Belgium was surrounded by the poverty of India.

The PMDB's veteran leader, Ulysses Guimarães, greeted the election results as a mandate for social change.

"We have to correct injustice and social discrimination," he said. "Our aim is — to change society."

Political analysts predict tensions between the PMDB and the junior coalition partner, the Liberal Front Party (PFL), which opposes changes such as land reform.

Many Brazilians, from the president downwards, have highlighted the absence of strong democratic institutions as one of the country's problems.

The parties are still young and fluid — politicians change parties with ease — and the legislature is weak.

In Brasilia's square of the three powers, the national Congress building towers above the presidential palace and the supreme court.

The architect of Brasilia, Oscar Niemeyer, intended this to symbolise the importance of the legislature, but in the immediate aftermath of military rule politicians agree that this is a hope rather than a reality.

Yet bubonic plague, a terrifying symbol of medieval poverty, has struck the northeastern state of Paraíba.

Brazilian economist Edmar Bacha coined the term "betindia" to refer to this country, meaning that a modern, industrialised

spread on how five voters spent polling day, detailing what they ate and how they dressed.

Despite the uneven distribution of wealth, there is an egalitarian spirit in the air. On election day, the last military ruler, General Joao Figueiredo, stood in line with other citizens awaiting his turn to vote.

After the razzmatazz of the election campaign, in which the 15,000 candidates spent an estimated \$1 billion, comes the more down-to-earth business of governing.

The government, headed by President Jose Sarney, a recent convert to the PMDB, has a wide programme of social reforms. These range from an anti-inflation plan, introduced in February as the linchpin of Brazil's economic policy, to land reform.

Fleischer said there was a finely-judged balance of political forces in the PMDB, a broad coalition with both conservative and progressive wings.

One leading representative of the party's conservative wing, Orestes Quercia, was the PMDB victor for the governorship of Sao Paulo state, heartland of the Brazilian economy.

But political analysts said the party's conservative wing would find it hard to resist the pressures

for change.

Fleischer said: "Something will have to be done about the distribution of income. Brazil has some of the worst statistics on income distribution in the whole world."

According to official figures, the top five per cent of the population earns 33 per cent of the wealth, while the bottom 50 per cent earns 13.6 per cent.

These figures include only declared income and Fleischer said that because tax evasion was widespread the true picture was probably even more skewed.

Around all big cities, even the showpiece capital Brasilia, there are wretched shantytowns marked by poverty and disease.

Brazilians themselves readily acknowledge the mind-bending contradictions of their land.

The country is now the eighth biggest non-Communist economy and one Brazilian bank forecasts that by the turn of the century Brazil will be vying with France for fourth position.

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Death letter to the editor

The following article by David Palmer is reprinted from Nov. 17th issue of the British newspaper, The Guardian.

TWO Sunday mornings ago Dele Giwa, the 39-year-old editor-in-chief of the Nigerian magazine Newswatch, was having a late morning breakfast with his London Bureau chief, Kayode Soyinka.

They were sitting, still in their night gowns, in the study of his house in the prosperous suburb of Ikere, north Lagos. Then, not it seems unexpectedly, a padded envelope arrived by hand, addressed to Giwa, with the inscription: "From the Office of the C-in-C."

Accounts of the messenger who delivered the letter said that it came with a man on a motorcycle; the police said there were two men in a white Peugeot 504.

What happened next is not disputed. The envelope was passed by the gatekeeper to Giwa's 19-year-old son, Billy, who took it into the study. "This must be from the President," Giwa said as he began to open it on his lap.

The explosion virtually tore the legs from his body and hurled Soyinka across the room, destroying his ear drums. Half an hour later, in hospital and still unconscious, Giwa died. "They got me," were his last words.

Giwa's assassination has sent waves of fear and suspicion through the whole of Nigeria. Journalists see it as a public execution to teach the more daring a lesson. Never has the

letter bomb been used in Nigeria. Such a sophisticated instrument of terror must point, they say, to powerful interests. There was also a bleak irony; three days before Giwa had celebrated with Wole Soyinka the playwright's Nobel prize for literature. Alfred Nobel's dynamite, or one of its sons had delivered another message.

In the Nigerian press, flexing its muscles after the restrictions of the previous military regime, there have been feverish efforts to identify the leading suspects. And there are some bizarre candidates. But first something of Dele. A brusque often arrogant man, who had made many enemies. Trained in the expansive, personalised school of American new journalism in the seventies, he returned to Nigeria in 1979 to become the features editor of the government-owned Daily Times and then editor of the independent Sunday Concord. In his idiosyncratic and irreverent weekly column, Parallax Snaps, he at first disdained politics; but at the height of the corrupt civilian government of Shehu Shagari (1979 to 1984) he increasingly turned his hand to hard investigative reporting. A piece attacking the police earned him several days in jail.

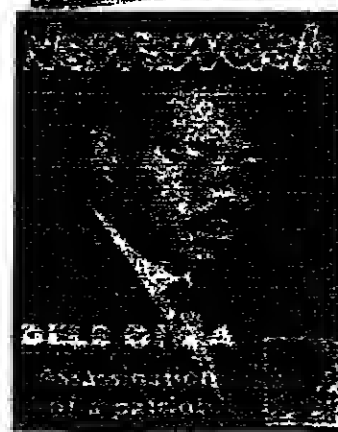
Within his new magazine, Newswatch, launched in January 1985, the tradition continued although he supported the more relaxed military regime of Major General Babangida when it ousted Major General Buhari in August 1985. Indeed Babangida was in regular, friendly contact with the magazine.

As to the suspects, they range from some part of the state security apparatus, through corrupt and influential commercial interests to the fearsome Lawrence "The Law" Anani, an armed robber who has terrorised Benin City and murdered several policemen. Anani can probably be dismissed though the last issue of Newswatch, published just after Giwa's death, carried a long cover story on his exploits. In an editorial Giwa compared him to Jack the Ripper, Son of Sam and the Boston Strangler. "Son of Dog," he called him. Giwa's lawyer, Chief Gani Fawehinmi, has already pointed an accusatory finger. On Nov. 4 he sought permission from the Lagos state director of public prosecutions to lay private murder charges against the heads of the civilian and military intelligence services.

Although the evidence is circumstantial Giwa was under investigation. On the Thursday before his death, he was called to the headquarters of the State Security Service (SSS) where he was interrogated the next day by the deputy head, Lt. Col. A. K. Togun.

Togun alleged he was planning to import arms into Nigeria and that he had been discussing a socialist revolution with labour and student groups; also that he was about to reveal controversial facts about the recent removal from office of Bahangida's number two, Commodore Ehitu Ukiwe.

Shocked by these charges, which he fervently denied, Giwa



Dele Giwa at work (right) and on the cover of Newswatch after the brutal murder.



immediately complained of harassment to his friend, the minister of information, Tony Momoh. Believing that the SSS only wanted "to rattle" Giwa, Momoh says he called the Chief of the General Staff, Rear Admiral Augustus Aikhomu and the director of military intelligence, Col. Halli Akilu. Both assured him that Giwa had nothing to worry about.

On Saturday, several newspaper editors, including Giwa, called at Aikhomu's home after lunch. Aikhomu told him that all was well. During the day Akilu tried unsuccessfully to phone him at home. But according to Giwa's wife, Funmi, Akilu also asked for the number of his house, saying that "the ADC had something for him." (Akilu later claimed that he was planning a friendly visit to the house on his way to the north.) On the Sunday

morning Giwa returned Akilu's calls and he was told that the matter with the SSS was "now settled."

The final candidates for suspicion come from some of the stories Newswatch has run in the last year about business corruption in Nigeria. These have included exposing the Johnson Matthey Bank scandal by which Nigeria was defrauded of millions of Naira; the perennial problem of Nigerian entrepreneurs earning foreign exchange through fraudulent invoicing, often through imports from British companies; and other rip-offs, in the importation of wheat. Names have been named, including men of substance whose links with the military establishment are close. There is speculative talk in Lagos of a community of interest and perhaps even a connection with the burgeoning drugs trade. A British businessman who worked in Nigeria until 1982, Peter Turtill, was the source for some of Newswatch's revelations about the JMB fraud. He has also received death threats in England.

Dele Giwa often wrote about death. In a dedication to the assassinated Nigerian leader, Murtala Muhammed, he wrote: "What really can man do about death and such matters over which he has no control, except to resign himself to saying to hell?" Or again: "I don't subscribe to the pen being mightier than the sword. I know the conventional wisdom calls it the sword. That is not really applicable in this day and age when people don't have the gladiatorial patience to swing the sword. It is either the bullet or the bomb."

Union of homeless people being organised in U.S.

By Jon Kalish

NEW YORK — As winter approaches, homeless people in several U.S. cities are organising a union to try to get help — by using force if necessary.

"How dare they put us in soup lines how dare they put us in shelters that are nothing more than prisons" says Chris Sprowal, founder of the union.

Plans for a "winter offensive" were announced at a recent meeting of the union's New York organising committee. Ronald Darnaby, one of Sprowal's lieutenants, said the plans included call for homeless people to occupy houses which have been repossessed by mortgage companies.

"Whenever you apply pressure to this government, it will change," Darnaby said. "You only get what you organise to take."

A New York chapter of the National Union for the Homeless will be formally launched at a riverside church rally late this month and Sprowal says he expects at least 1,000 homeless people to be there.

"We don't have economic power, we don't have political power but the one thing we do have is our bodies," Sprowal said in an interview with Reuters.

"We have mass numbers and we can build a force of people who are prepared to fight and go to jail in sacrifice."

According to Sprowal, chapters are functioning in Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Baltimore, Washington, New Orleans and Los Angeles. He claims 20,000 members.

There are no reliable figures for the number of homeless nationwide, but there are an estimated 25,000 homeless in New York, and this does not include many who live on the streets.

"There will be those of you who say it cannot be done," Sprowal told a rally of several hundred homeless in New York's Union Square recently.

"Some of you think that homeless people are never going to pull together and organise. I'm here to tell you that's a lie," Sprowal said.

Sprowal, 54, of Philadelphia, was once a labour organiser and has also been homeless. His height — 6 feet 5 inches (1.96 metres) — and his strong handshake make

him an imposing figure. He is an emotional speaker. "This brother definitely got the fire in his belly," remarked one homeless man as Sprowal spoke beneath a yellow and red banner that said "Homeless not Helpless."

During the rally volunteers served steaming hot chicken, ribs, peas and macaroni salad to the homeless who came from the shelters, welfare hotels and the streets.

Some carried shopping bags filled with personal belongings or plastic bags full of empty returnable cans and bottles, the prime source of cash for many people. One couple brought their possessions in two shopping carts.

The union wants housing, jobs, education and health care for the homeless and it vows to employ direct action — civil disobedience. So far there have been scattered incidents.

In Philadelphia, homeless activists were arrested earlier this year for sit-ins at the mayor's office to demand 24-hour access to city shelters and at a private employment agency they accused of charging exorbitant fees.

The group was also arrested in Philadelphia for stripping and jumping in a public fountain to dramatise the need for showers.

In Chicago, where the union went to court to uphold the right of homeless people to vote, members were arrested for protesting against the construction of luxury housing.

And in Los Angeles, a thousand homeless people stopped traffic in the business district for two hours after the founding convention of the Los Angeles chapter in June.

The homeless union has alienated some; shelter workers say they feel the group is too aggressive.

But the movement is welcomed by lawyer Boh Hayes who heads the New York Coalition for the Homeless, and is one of the leading advocates for the homeless in America today.

"Homelessness and hunger are obsessions that have to be struggled against," Hayes told Reuters in an interview at the coalition's cramped Manhattan office.

"There are some people who pray for justice, some people fast to pressure the government to provide more funds. I litigate," Hayes said.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Nov. 22, 1986

9:10 The Consultant

8:30 You Again

Bad Apples

The difference in age and taste between Henry and his son are constant and comic irritants in their daily confrontations, especially when the subject of education is raised.

9:10 Sat. Variety Show

10:20 Feature film

One Man Jury

Starring:

Jack Palance

Christopher Mitchum

In the genre of "Death Wish" one law officer lives by his own rules, becoming judge, jury, and executioner.

Sun. — Nov. 23, 1986

8:30 Sorry

9:10 The Story of S.O.E.

New documentary

During the Second World War the Special Operations Executive (SOE) was to "set Europe ablaze" by promoting sabotage, subversion and guerrilla warfare in enemy occupied territory. With archive film, reconstructions and the personal accounts of surviving agents, the programme highlights the full range of SOE's operations in France, Holland, Denmark, Italy, Greece, Yugoslavia and Malaya.

10:20 Dallas

End Game

Mon. — Nov. 24, 1986

8:30 No Place Like Home

Webb is pressurised by his bank manager to clear his massive overdraft, but he is more interested in the finances of waterman's. Alex Harrington, head of security, initiates Webb into the paranoid atmosphere at the London Data Centre.

10:20 Strangers and Brothers

Lewis Eliot is summoned to Barford to witness the first attempt at a controlled chain-reaction — a necessary step towards the manufacture of an atomic bomb.

Tue. — Nov. 25, 1986

8:30 Music Box

9:30 Yes Prime Minister

New comedy series

As prime minister, Jim Hacker becomes more decisive and outspoken; but Sir Humphrey is that much wiler, and his circumlocutions are that much trickier. Will their delicate love-hate relationship be affected by the new power?

10:20 Dempsey and Makepeace

Bird of Prey

Another adventure with the crime — fighting duo. This week — Return of the Bogeyman. Dempsey and Makepeace face an old foe — Keith Lynon the deadly villain with the feather in his hair.

Wed. — Nov. 26, 1986

8:30 Three's Company

9:00 Doc. — Architecture at the Crossroads



The Great Bookie Robbery — Thursday at 10:20

Stop the Bulldozer

All over the world people are fighting the tendency to destroy the old. Stations are turned into museums, factories into concert halls. Everywhere old buildings have been given new life. This programme looks at the reconstruction of the historic centre of Frankfurt, the new museum in Paris and the revitalised shopping malls of America.

9:30 Brat Farrar

New Series

Starring: Angela Matthews, Angela Browne

Brat Farrar, an illegitimate orphan of unknown parentage, returns to England after eight years on the run in the United States. But, when he agrees to impersonate the heir to a large fortune he faces murder and the threat of prosecution, in this dramatisation of Josephine Tey's tense psychological thriller.

10:20 The Great Bookie Robbery

Thur. — Nov. 27, 1986

8:30 Check It Out

A young employee borrowed the texedo of the manager and invited his girlfriend to a party. A pet was lost in the store, a snake was released to look after it...

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 Feature film

I Came, I Saw, I Shot

Starring:

Antonio Sabato

John Saxon

A gang of three planned to steal \$400,000 from a big bank. The three quarrel and fight over the money — which lawmen accidentally found.

Fri. — Nov. 28, 1986

9:10 Best Seller

Once An Eagle

10:20 Sherlock Holmes

The Abbey Grave

In this episode Sherlock Holmes investigates a case of a man who's been murdered in his farm house in front of his wife.

Sydney Pollack offers no answers, just painful questions

By Andrej Gostinick

Reuter

BELGRADE — American film director Sydney Pollack does not claim to have the answers to life's problems, he just asks the painful questions.

"My films are always love stories with a central argument that the characters try to resolve. They (the characters) usually fail," Pollack, Oscar-winning director of "Out of Africa," told Reuters while in Belgrade for a film premiere.

"I don't have the answers, I just pose the questions and let my characters try to work them out," he said.

"I have friends, passionate and committed liberals, who are ready to take the barricades at the drop

of a hat, sure that there is a right cause to fight for," he said.

"I respect them for it and maybe even go along initially, but then I ask myself: Is it really that one sided? Does our side have all the answers?"

Pollack, who lives in Los Angeles, was born in South Bend, Indiana, and came to New York to study in 1952.

He went to Los Angeles in 1960 and began directing television programmes, including the popular medical soap opera "Ben Casey" although he said he could not work for television now.

Pollack, 52, has directed such hits as "They Shoot Horses Don't They," "The Way We Were" and "Tootsie" and lesser known films such as "Castle Keep," filmed in Yugoslavia in 1969.

He directed his first film, "The Slender Thread," in 1965. His first major success was "They Shoot Horses Don't They" about a gruelling dance marathon set during the American depression of the 1930s. It won Jane Fonda her first Academy Award nomination.

It was followed by a string of hits, including "The Way We Were" about a fiery radical, played by Barbara Streisand, who falls in love with a clean-cut, all-American writer portrayed by Robert Redford.

It was while studying acting at New York's neighbourhood playhouse, that Pollack met Redford, later to star in six of his films.

"Bob is quintessentially American — understated and

romantic ... He builds his own world and lets the director find him."

"There's a romantic aura and intelligence about him, almost, and this seems like a strange thing to say about an American, an aristocratic quality."

Pollack said America had changed over the last few years and that the loners and misfits who wandered the American screen during the last two decades were vanishing.

"Audiences got tired of all that existential angst, the sanctification of the loner. The American subconscious has gone through various stages of guilt, alienation, optimism and, unfortunately, hysterical super-patriotism..."

"All of my films are romantic and idealistic," he said.

Gulf states look to sea to ease water shortage

By Fouad Gawahri

Reuter

BAHRAIN — In a region where water is as precious as oil, Gulf states turn to the sea for drinking water for their people and to irrigate the desert land.

Stretching from Kuwait in the north to Oman in the south, the Gulf coastline is dotted with huge desalination plants and water pipelines financed by oil revenues.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, says it distils more seawater into fresh water than any other country: 2.3 billion litres a day.

Kuwait, less than a hundredth the size of Saudi Arabia, is expanding its desalination plants to produce 1.1 billion litres daily by 1988.

In Bahrain, an island state of 400,000 people, the scorching midsummer heat this year sent daily consumption up to 250 million litres — one of the world's highest per capita.

Ahu Dhabi and Dubai, the wealthiest of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), have enough water from natural resources and desalination plants for their needs.

But in some of the poorer emirates, like Ajman and Umm Al Quwain, drinking water hrought in tanks from other parts of the country can cost as much as petrol — between three and five dirhams (\$0.80 and \$1.40) a gallon (4.5 litres).

Desalination plants have also been built in Qatar and Oman. But the Sultanate of Oman still relies heavily on a unique irrigation system believed to have been brought by Persians 2,000 years ago.

The Falaj system draws water either from upland pools or underground reservoirs through shallow angled tunnels dug into mountainsides.

The water is distributed by canals and is the main source for agriculture, on which more than one third of Oman's 1.2 million people depend for a living.

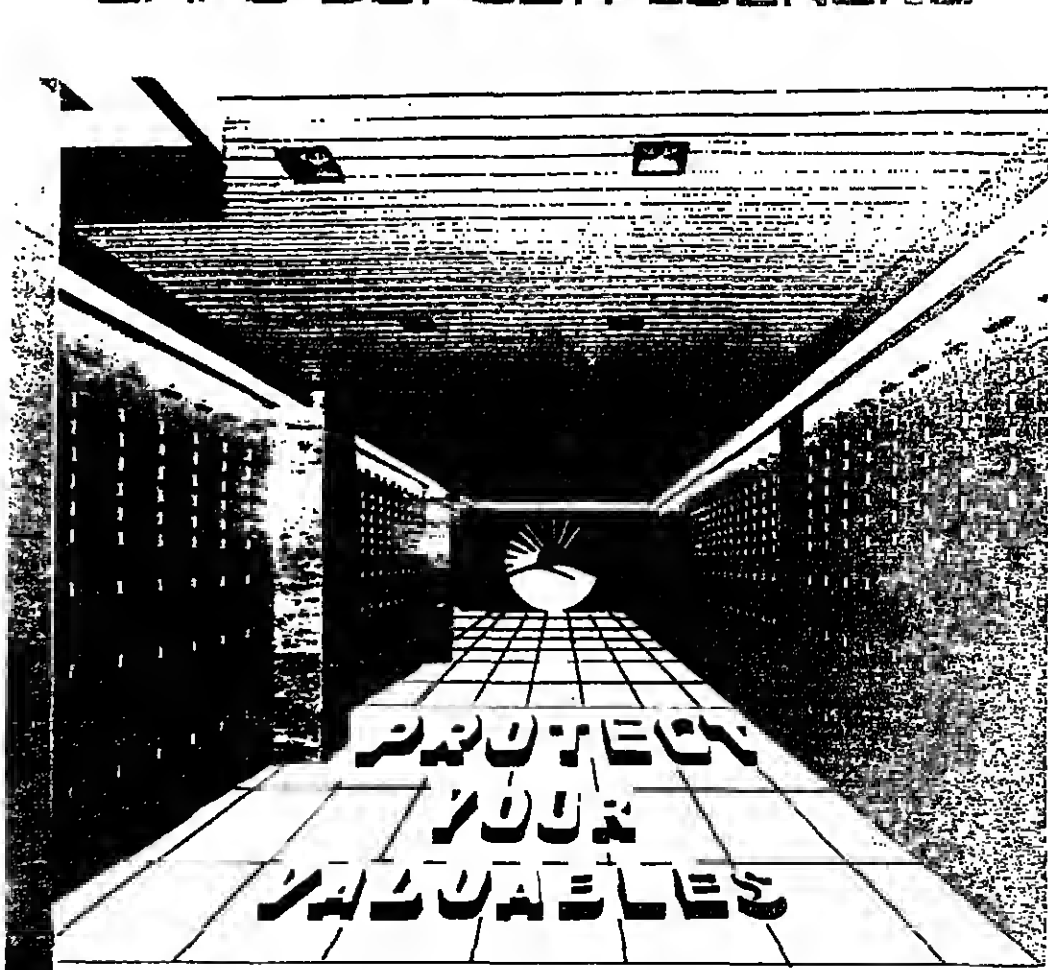
But experts say overuse of privately-owned wells in the interior of Oman has led to a four-fold rise in salt levels in subterranean rock strata along the fertile Batinah coastal strip.

Throughout the Gulf region, natural sources of fresh water have been steadily depleted by the demands of a growing population and the heady pace of development.

As consumption rises and natural sources decline, Bahrain has a project to meet 90 per cent of its needs through desalination units, compared with 65 per cent at present.

Desalination plants are also used to generate electric power.

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Shriver upsets Mandlikova

Czech slams umpire's chair after being 'cheated'

NEW YORK (AP) — Fifth-seeded Pam Shriver upset an angry Hana Mandlikova and top-seeded Martina Navratilova crushed West Germany's Bettina Bunge on Thursday night to set up one semifinal match of the \$1 million Virginia Slims Tennis Championships.

"I played a hundred matches and I've never been cheated like this before," Mandlikova said in a statement after falling to Shriver 4-6, 7-5, 6-1.

"I don't want to take anything away from Pam," the no. 3 seed from Czechoslovakia said. "I was playing my best tennis at the beginning and I felt I was being cheated. I can fight to a certain moment, but then it's too much."

Navratilova, the world's top-ranked player, had no problem disposing of Bunge 6-2, 6-4.

The victories by Navratilova and Shriver set up a semifinal singles meeting at Madison Square Garden between doubles partners.

The winner of Sunday's final, billed as the richest women's tennis tournament, will receive \$125,000 with the runner-up earning \$60,000.

Mandlikova, known for her mood swings and inconsistency, was alternately brilliant and troubled in her match with Shriver.

And it was her moody



Hana Mandlikova... throws tantrum

temperament as much as Shriver's attacking style that sent Mandlikova out of the tournament after she became flustered with several line calls.

Until the seventh game of the second set, Mandlikova was racing toward the semifinals.

She began in near perfection, displaying the type of play that took her to the U.S. Open

women's singles title in 1985. Mandlikova, of Czechoslovakia, the third seed in the 16-player field, raced out to a 4-1 lead, breaking Shriver in the fourth game.

And when Shriver, of the United States, broke Mandlikova in the ninth game, pulling to within 4-5, the Czech just closed out the first set by breaking right back with three dazzling passing shots.

When Mandlikova grabbed a 4-1 lead in the second set, winning 12 consecutive points at one stretch, she appeared to be ready to close out an early night. It was not to be.

The tide turned in the seventh game as Mandlikova suddenly couldn't find a first serve. Shriver made her pay for it, attacking the second serve and taking the net, ready to slam winning volleys.

Shriver broke Mandlikova in the 10-point game only to lose her own service at love in the eighth.

She began the opening game of the final set with her ninth ace and capped it with her 10th. Shriver matched that with her own love game.

Then Shriver gained the first service break of the decisive set, the last point coming on a Mandlikova's eighth double-fault.

As she walked around the umpire's chair after the changeover, she slammed the chair with her racket, drawing a warning from the umpire.

Mandlikova didn't win another game.



Her Majesty Queen Noor greets the participants of the Royal Automobile Club charity cart race held on Friday.

RAC cart race raises JD 5,000 for charity

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ali Al Hamen "roared" across the finish line Friday to win the fourth annual Royal Automobile Club (RAC) charity cart race.

The well-attended race, held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, succeeded in raising over JD 5,000 for the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, according to Mr. Samir Dajani, spokesman for the RAC.

The race got underway at 3:25 p.m. with 17 participants crossing the starting line. One hour and 100 laps later Al Hamen came in first, followed closely by Amir Bilbeisi, who also completed 100 laps. Placing third was Hadi Bisharat, finishing with 92 laps, and fourth was His Royal

Highness Prince Abdullah, with 92 laps.

The carts, which consist of a small engine and a seat connected by pipes, are divided into three different categories, depending on the power of the engine. The racers followed a course of approximately 750 metres within the RAC complex. Mr. Dajani said. Except for a few minor collisions, the race came off smoothly, he said.

Her Majesty Queen Noor presented the top three winners with cups and also officially opened three glass-enclosed squash courts at the RAC.

Euro matches end in draws

LONDON (AP) — Defending champion France was held to a 0-0 draw by East Germany in Leipzig in one of three qualifying matches for the 1988 European Soccer Championship.

The three games Wednesday produced only two goals between them, Belgium and Bulgaria drawing 1-1 in Brussels and Poland holding the Netherlands goalless in Amsterdam.

France badly needed a victory in Leipzig to boost its flagging hopes in Group Three where the Soviet Union leads with five points from three games and has already won in Paris.

Salonen wins British rally

BATH, England (AP) — Finland's Timo Salonen marked his final appearance as world champion by winning the Lombard RAC Auto Rally Wednesday night in his Peugeot 205.

By the time the leading cars arrived back in this south-west English city after their 2,400-kilometre trek through England, Scotland and Wales, the 35-year-old Salonen had opened up a lead of one minute, 22 seconds over the Lancia of Markku Alen, the overall championship leader, with the Peugeot of Juha Kankunen in third place.

Salonen is not competing in next month's final world championship event in the United States where Alen and Kankunen separated by only one point, will fight for his crown.

With only one previous victory this season, Salonen was keen to achieve his first success in the Lombard race and extended his slender, nine-second overnight lead despite the driving rain which made the final stages in the Welsh forests slippery and dangerous.

Holikova considers seeking asylum

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Tennis star Andrea Holikova of Czechoslovakia reportedly is considering asking for political asylum in the United States, according to a spokesman for U.S. Senator Dave Durenberger.

Holikova, the no. 3 ranked junior player in the world before turning professional last year, has learned that if she goes back to Czechoslovakia after her U.S. visa expires next month, she may not be allowed to leave again, the Minneapolis Star and Tribune reported Thursday.

Douglas Kelley, Durenberger's administrative assistant, said Wednesday that the senator's office was working with Holikova, but he said it was his understanding that she had not formally asked for political asylum. In 1985, Holikova won the Wimbledon junior title and was a semifinalist in the U.S. Open junior tournament.



AL AHLI DOWNS AL DUFFATEIN: Al Ahli upset Al Duffatein 2-1 at Amman Stadium on Friday to move into a three-way tie for the lead in Jordan's Premier Division. Al Ahli now shares the lead with Al Duffatein and Al Ramtha with 15 points each. In the photo, Al Ahli defender, Mahmoud Maher (14) struggles with two Al Duffatein players, Khalid Salim (right) and Walid Khas (face obscured by all) to clear the ball. In soccer action at Zargo, Al Jasra defeated Al Qooqazi 3-1. On Sunday, Al Faisali and Al Hussein each with 14 points are scheduled to play at Amman Stadium at 4:00 p.m. (Photo by Abu Siman)

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Dahiyat heads delegation to Iraq

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat arrived here Thursday heading an official Jordanian delegation on a five-day visit to Iraq, at the invitation of Iraqi Youth Minister Abdul Fattah Amin. Dr. Dahiyat said that during the visit the two sides will pursue talks held in Amman during which a youth protocol was signed between Jordan and Iraq. He added that his talks with his Iraqi counterpart will deal with the implementation of the protocol, development of bilateral relations in youth fields as well as the exchange of delegations between the two countries.

England's Atkinson considers Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Former Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson is discussing the possibility of becoming manager of Turkey's national team, a top soccer official said Thursday. Ertan Oflaz, chairman of the football federation, told a news conference: "Atkinson has accepted our offer. He will come to Turkey in the next few days and we will discuss terms." The move follows the resignation of manager Coskun Ozari after Turkey's 4-0 defeat last month by Yugoslavia in a European Championship game. On the day Ozari stepped down, Turkey drew 0-0 with Northern Ireland.

U.N. run completes Vietnam leg

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Athletes participating in a United Nations-sponsored global charity run finished their travels in Vietnam Thursday, the official Voice of Vietnam Radio said. The run in Communist Vietnam began last Saturday, when athletes including Australian marathoner Bernard Berwell arrived bearing a torch representing peace, the radio said in an earlier broadcast. The run, sponsored by the U.N. Children's Fund, is designed to raise funds for poor children. It began Sept. 16, when U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar lit a torch at U.N. headquarters in New York City. Teams of runners have fanned out around the globe and are to pass through 45 countries before returning to New York on Dec. 11.

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- Upon the request of the Ministry of Health and the World Bank, the Government Tenders Directorate in Jordan is hereby inviting sealed tenders from prequalified tenderers for the construction of the building of the Paramedical Integrated Training Institute in Irbid, consisting of (10,000) square metres of built-up area with other ancillaries and site works.
- In interested prequalified tenderers may obtain copies of tender documents from the Government Tenders Directorate - Amman against a non-refundable fee of (JD 200) for each set. Those tenderers who have purchased tender documents previously are exempted from paying another time.
- All tenders must be accompanied by a tender guarantee from an approved bank operating in Jordan in the value of (JD 25,000) valid for (120) days, and shall be in a form acceptable to the employer.
- Last day for purchase of tender documents is Dec. 6, 1986.
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Chairman, Central Tenders Committee
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Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155
BAD MEDICINE
Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573
THE REPORT
(Arabic)
Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420
THE REPORT
(Arabic)
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198
THE REPORT
(Arabic)
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4145/55	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3865/70	U.S. dollars
	2.0145/50	West German marks
	2.2750/60	Dutch guilders
	1.6788/98	Swiss francs
	41.86/91	Belgian francs
	6.5950/6000	French francs
	1395/1396	Italian lire
	163.55/65	Japanese yen
	6.9650/9700	Swedish crowns
	7.5900/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.6100/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	390.00/390.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Stocks in London closed firmer after a subdued opening in reaction to the stronger pound but trading was relatively quiet at the end of the account, dealers said.

At 1530 GMT Friday the FTSE 100 share index was up 8.5 at 1,619.2 after a low of 1,609.4 at 0957 GMT. At 1500 GMT trading was three basis points up at 67.9 in trade weighted terms.

Newcomer to the market Virgin Group started trading at 142p but closed at 137-1/2p compared with the starting price of 140p. This striking price valued the company at £242 million.

Dealers said interest tended to be mainly confined to the blue chip issues with ICI up 5p at 1,054, Unilever 33p higher to 2,033, Cons Gold 14p to 668 and GKN 9p to 259.

Pilkington was 11p higher at 624 in further reaction to Thursday's £1.16 billion bid from BTR, down 5p at 286. Many in the market do not expect the BTR bid to succeed at this level and RTZ has been mentioned as a possible "white knight."

British and Commonwealth ended 9p higher to 302 after Thursday's agreed \$672.5 million offer for Exco International. Exco was 4p up at 272. B and C said it sees no difficulty in completing the acquisition.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are able to make consistent strides toward your long-time and long-range objectives by being alert to any obstacles in the path of getting them.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have good creative ideas, but use care in pursuing them and study new data that will help.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study into whatever is causing trouble at your home and clear it up. Be sure to keep any promises you make.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Communicate well with long-time partners and get much that is constructive well-handled.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't risk any large sums of money today if you want a favor from another.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Home affairs can be annoying, so get out and delve into amusements that have proved satisfying in the past.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get into some intimate tasks and gain the backing you need instead of dashing around town foolishly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A good friend will help you to gain some ambition. If you want to enjoy a group affair, include others like yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Listen to the advice of older and more wise individuals for any outside activities. Take it easy tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can expand if you are enthusiastic and positive in your actions. Attend a nice party in the evening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Avoid a stubborn friend who wastes your time and keeps you from handling important practical affairs.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A partner will gladly go along with you in some enterprise, provided you don't call in some expert.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't run off to new interests today. Build up your public reputation and feel more secure.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will have every ability at seeing the potentials of long-time plans, especially if based on tested standards. A simple home life is best for your far-seeing progeny, but would do very well in government circles or in large organizations.

Soviet Union cautiously expands private sector

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union has introduced legislation which permits small-scale private enterprise but falls short of measures that are in effect in Hungary and other communist countries.

The legislation was passed by the Supreme Soviet, the country's nominal parliament, which also adopted a budget and an economic plan for 1987 during a three-day session.

The plan foresees improvements in management efficiency and product quality, reflecting Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev's goals of streamlining the economy and making the country more competitive with the West.

The legislation on private enterprise allows people to make clothes, shoes, furniture and toys and to repair cars, apartments, televisions and radios.

Family-run cafes will be permitted and private tuition will be allowed in subjects which are on the curricula of schools and universities. In all, some 29 types of private economic activity will be permitted when the law takes effect next May 1.

Mr. Ivan Gladky, chairman of the State Committee for Labour and Social Issues, a body with

ministerial status, said he expected some two to three million people might be working privately by next year. The Soviet Union has more than 280 million people.

The legislation falls short of measures introduced in Hungary, where authorities have increased the independence of state enterprises, allowed numerous private businesses to flourish and even introduced a bond market.

Other communist countries such as China, Poland and non-aligned Yugoslavia have also encouraged the private sector more than is envisaged under the new law.

The Soviet economy was itself less fully in state hands during the 1920s, when Vladimir Lenin, who led the Bolshevik Revolution, pursued his new economic policy (NEP).

The new legislation applies to citizens over 18, who must however also work in the state sector, housewives, students, pensioners and the disabled. However, only members of the same family can join in running businesses and the hiring of labour is strictly forbidden.

TASS news agency said state monopolies would be faced with healthy competition.

India rejects loan offer until bank drops Israel

NEW DELHI (R) — The Indian government has declined to accept a \$150-million World Bank loan offer to finance fertilizer imports until the bank drops Israel as a potential supplier, a bank official said.

India supports Palestinian demands for a homeland and has no diplomatic or trade relations with Israel. "It is usual for the bank to ask a recipient nation to consider lenders submitted by countries with which it has trade relations," the official said.

"As of now official records do not show India has banned trading with Israel," the official said, commenting on a report carried by the Financial Express newspaper.

"To overcome the problem, the government must specifically

mention that it bans all trade deals with Israel," he added.

Israel was a prospective bidder for tenders which India proposed to hold to import fertilisers "... what has held up the utilisation (of the loan) is the insistence of the bank to include Israel also as a potential supplier, particularly for murate of potash ...," the official said.

The bank official said the newspaper has blown up the case beyond proportion because the loan forms only small part of total World Bank aid to India.

India, the largest recipient of bank loans, received last year loans totalling \$1.67 billion, far more than 50 per cent of aid disbursed by the bank, official records show.

EC intensifies subsidy war in wheat exports

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) Thursday agreed to the export of 375,000 tonnes of highly subsidised wheat to Algeria and Egypt, officials at the EC's commission said.

In a move likely to anger Washington, the EC's market managers granted export licences for the region with a subsidy of 120.25 European Currency Units (ECUs) a tonne.

The unusually high subsidy comes on top of an extra 25 ECUs (dollars) a tonne which European traders can already enjoy when exporting to Algeria and Egypt between January and May.

That aid is given to compensate for a long period of storage

between finding a market outlet and the summer harvest. The officials said mainly French traders would export 100,000 tonnes of wheat to Egypt and 275,000 tonnes to Algeria.

The subsidies will enable EC traders to sell well below current world market prices on traditional French markets which the United States had pinpointed as one of the areas for an export drive.

Washington, maintaining EC subsidies had lost a vital share of the world market, has pledged to match Community sales with its own subsidies. As a result it has already sold 1.5 million tonnes of wheat to both countries.

UAE to raise taxes and fees

ABU DHABI (OPECNA) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has decided to increase a wide range of fees and taxes over the next three to five years to make up for lower oil revenues.

Minister of state for finance and industry, Sheikh Ahmad Humaid Al Tayer, said the contribution of fees and taxes to the federal budget would be boosted more than five-fold — to \$1.09 billion from \$190.7 million.

The UAE cabinet last month approved budget spending of \$3.81 billion for 1986, the lowest level in seven years and down from \$4.52 billion in 1985. Total revenues this year are estimated at \$3.49 billion.

Oil revenues, which account for more than 90 per cent of state income, have fallen sharply in the last five years.

The cabinet has already announced new fees for expatriate students, a move which will bring in \$5.45 million annually.

Sheikh Al Tayer said among measures being studied to raise revenues in order to reduce dependence on oil was an increase in fees charged by the ministry of justice.

There has already been an increase in fees at the ministry of immigration, naturalisation and labour for work permits and residence visas.

The ministry of finance and industry is also charging higher fees for registration certificates issued by its industrial directorate, while the communications ministry has stepped up fees for aircraft licences and air safety certificates.

Kodak quits South Africa

ROCHESTER, New York (R) — U.S. photography giant Eastman Kodak is pulling out of South Africa under terms one analyst called the stiffest of any U.S. firm so far.

Kodak, one of the longest established foreign firms in South Africa, said Tuesday the assets of its South African unit would be sold after April 30 and no Kodak unit anywhere in the world would be permitted to supply products to South Africa.

Mr. Azar Jammine, chief economist of the Johannesburg-based Econometric Marketing and Research firm, said local companies would find it almost impossible to replace Kodak's products and technology.

He said this was an example of "the technological rundown the country is likely to experience as a result of disinvestment."

Analysts noted that the Kodak move went much further than the pullouts announced last month by General Motors, IBM and Coca-Cola.

Under their plans, G.M. cars and IBM computers will still be available in South Africa and the companies may retain lucrative licensing arrangements with their former subsidiaries. Coca-Cola drinks will also be available in South Africa after the parent company leaves.

Kodak employs 466 people in five South African cities.

Coffee prices fall sharply; sugar may become costly

LONDON (R) — Coffee prices have fallen dramatically after eight months at comparatively high levels, and traders said the slide may compel producers to renew stalled negotiations on setting quotas to tighten the market.

The price is now about 139 U.S. cents a pound. It was above \$2 early this year and around 180 cents in September.

The International Coffee Organisation, an umbrella group of producers and importers, is supposed to convene an emergency meeting of its board to consider export quotas, if prices average below 145 cents over a 15-day period.

In September, attempts at a price support agreement failed as producers disagreed about how much each should be allowed to sell.

Brazil which has a dominant position in the industry wants to reintroduce a quota system which was in force until February.

Other countries such as Indonesia and Kenya want new quotas which would reflect the recent expansion of their sales.

Consumers see revision of quotas as a sensible move but, although they have the right to veto any agreement, they are traditionally excluded from detailed quota discussions.

Third World exporters of coffee, and several other commodities for which markets are weak, are struggling to beat world recession and cope with debt burdens. They are competing desperately for sales, making agreements on limiting production very difficult to achieve.

Even the highly successful Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries has seen oil

prices collapse as members quarrelled over market share.

Attempts to reach agreement in commodities as diverse as tin, rubber and sugar, have also run into major difficulties.

Quotas are generally allocated roughly in proportion to how much a country produces at the time an agreement is reached. And with coffee production at present not limited by an agreement, producers are jockeying for position.

The secretary-general of the African Producers' Organisation told his members to increase production so as to improve their case for a higher quota when world prices fall.

But one large coffee buyer said this was not the start of a price war and that any fall in prices was unlikely to trickle through to the shops.

The countries expanding production are too small to make a real impact, he said, and the larger producers know it is not in their interests to let a price war break out.

Traders say the recent fall in the coffee price reflects uncertainty about the intentions of Brazil, whose coffee harvest this year was well below normal and who in September took the unusual step of buying coffee on the European market.

Brazil said the coffee was destined for domestic consumption. But the coffee has still not been shipped and there are fears that a short-term coffee

surplus could be created if Brazil decided to resell the coffee in Europe.

Meanwhile, world sugar prices may rise next year as crops in major producer countries are hit by drought and output falls below demand for the second year running.

One London trader said prices could rise by 10 to 20 per cent between now and next spring as stocks accumulated in a recent depressed market run down.

World consumption in 1987 is likely to rise to 102.9 million tonnes, London brokers C. Czarnikow said in a report, while production is estimated at 99.72 million tonnes.

The 1986 consumption figure was 100.7 million tonnes and output has been put at 98.22 million tonnes.

The forecast drop in stocks should "lead to much better trading conditions before the end of next year," Czarnikow said.

The stocks built up as expanding production of beet sugar in the European Community and corn sweeteners in the United States, and their export and subsidy policies, dampened prices for traditional Third World suppliers of cane.

In the past year, sugar has traded as low as \$100 per tonne but is now creeping up to around \$130.

A catastrophic drought in Brazil, a leading world supplier of cane sugar, means its 1987 output will fall short of a 9.1 million target, Czarnikow said, forecasting production of 8.50 million tonnes for 1986-87.

Traders are watching Brazil carefully because "what happens there has a major effect on the world market," one London merchant said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Austrian Airlines to resume flights to Iran

VIENNA (R) — Austrian Airlines said it planned to resume flights to Tehran next month, nearly two years since they were suspended because of the Gulf War. A statement said the airline planned one flight between Vienna and Tehran per week. Formal permission for overflights for the route were still being worked out, airline officials said.

World milk output may slightly increase

WASHINGTON (AP) — World milk production is likely to increase this year but may level off in 1987. A U.S. Agriculture Department report forecast 1986 milk output in major dairy countries at 423.2 million tonnes up about one per cent from 417.9 million tonnes in 1985. The forecast for next year is 423.4 million tonnes. This year's increase was attributed to larger milk production in Mexico and the Soviet Union, which more than offset declines in Brazil and Eastern Europe, the report said. The expected levelling off in 1987 will be due mainly to declines in the United States and the European Community, which will offset increases in other countries, the report said.

China plans to boost power generation

PEKING (AP) — China plans to build 28 power stations in the next 10 years to ease acute power shortages in coastal cities, the official Xinhua news agency reported. The stations will have a capacity of almost 20 million kilowatts and generate 120 billion kilowatt-hours a year, Xinhua said.

Egypt ups oil export prices

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt decided Thursday to increase its oil export prices by between \$1.45 and \$1.60 a barrel for the rest of November, a senior oil ministry official said.

Mr. Hamud Ayoub, the ministry's foreign trade director, announced the new prices after a meeting of the pricing committee.

The committee is an inter-departmental body that convenes periodically under Mr. Ayoub's chairmanship to set export prices according to world market conditions.

Egypt had upped the prices of all four varieties by 80 cents a barrel for the period Nov. 6-20 after a decrease of up to \$1.10 a barrel for the first five days of the month.

Egypt expects to earn \$650 million from oil exports this year compared with \$2 billion in 1985, the semi-official Al Ahram daily said.

It quoted Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandeel as saying in an interview marking the centenary of Egypt's first oilfield that the decline was a direct result of the collapse in world oil prices.

THE Daily Crossword by Harold B. Counts

ACROSS

1. One of the TV's
2. Celebration
3. Ready city
4. ... and water
5. Rhode
6. God of
7. Walked and
8. Whitney
9. Singer
10. Johnny
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3. Ready city	11. ...	19. ...	27. ...
4. ... and water	12. ...	20. ...	28. ...
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6. God of	14. ...	22. ...	30. ...
7. Walked and	15. ...	23. ...	31. ...
8. Whitney	16. ...	24. ...	32. ...
9. Singer	17. ...	25. ...	33. ...
10. Johnny	18. ...	26. ...	34. ...
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Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

Senior Soviet aide doubtful about dealing with Reagan

MOSCOW (Agencies) — A senior Kremlin adviser issued Friday the strongest Soviet attack on President Reagan since last month's mini-summit in Iceland, casting doubt on whether Moscow could continue to deal with him.

Writing in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda, U.S. specialist Georgy Arbatov accused the U.S. leader of a crusade of unprecedented hostility against Moscow.

Because of this "Moscow should now give serious thought to our attitude to the U.S. president's word," said Mr. Arbatov, who accompanied Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to the Reykjavik talks.

He said Mr. Reagan dropped all reference to eliminating ballistic missiles by 1996 in a speech he made on Tuesday, yet he and Mr. Gorbachev agreed on this before their talks broke down over U.S. plans to build a space-based missile defense system.

A glaring gap had been revealed between Washington's words and deeds, Mr. Arbatov said.

"They have tried for five weeks to build shaky bridges over that gap, covering their tracks and losing their way in the process, turning everything upside down and lying," he said.

In his speech, Mr. Reagan had clearly turned from talks to rabid anti-Sovietism, casting doubt on Washington's reliability as a negotiating partner, he said.

"The U.S. president can be understood in only one way: The very idea of peaceful coexistence is going overboard and U.S. policy reverts not even to 1956 but to 1918."

In spite of intense disappointment at the lack of results from the Reykjavik talks, Moscow has until now expressed

its determination to continue to search for agreement.

Mr. Gorbachev said after the summit that disarmament was too important to postpone until a new U.S. president took power. Mr. Reagan's mandate expires in January 1989 and he is constitutionally barred from running for a third term.

Mr. Arbatov, accusing Mr. Reagan of interfering in Soviet affairs, said he had returned to his old role of "provincial ideologist" and Moscow wondered whether it could trust him.

He continued: "In Reykjavik, he all but put his signature under an accord on the total abolition of nuclear weapons."

A little more than a month later, he not only went back on everything but launched a "crusade" against the USSR and made the accord dependent on changes in our domestic structures.

"Where is he, the true President Reagan? Who are we doing business with in reality?"

The only explanation for this about-turn, he concluded, was that Mr. Reagan was trying to divert attention away from domestic issues such as the row over secret U.S. arms supplies to Iran.

Washington needed a scapegoat and did not have far to look, Mr. Arbatov said.

"It is, of course, the Soviet Union and they are trying to make this 'eternal enemy' the target of growing discontent."

In Washington a senior

government official denies the United States has backed away from its pledge at the Iceland summit to seek a ban on all ballistic nuclear missiles.

But Kenneth Adelman said U.S. negotiators would concentrate on what could be accomplished "in the near term" by seeking a 50 per cent reduction in U.S. and Soviet long-range nuclear weapons and a reduction in intermediate-range missiles.

"If we get either or both of those, it would move arms control ahead dramatically," the U.S. arms-control director said in an interview.

President Reagan proposed at the Oct. 11-12 summit with Mr. Gorbachev a ban on all ballistic missiles within 10 years.

He also called for a 50 per cent reduction in all strategic weapons — globe-girdling bombers, missiles and submarines — within five years and the immediate elimination of U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range missiles in Europe.

The summit dissolved in a dispute over the U.S. anti-missile programme, known as "Star Wars." Then, Secretary of State George Shultz said Monday night "a small nuclear ballistic missile force" might also be retained as a hedge against Soviet cheating.

Although Mr. Shultz said such a step would require an agreement with the Soviets, his remarks were interpreted as a retreat from Mr. Reagan's proposal to Mr. Gorbachev for a total ban on ballistic missiles.

Asked if the administration was backing away, Mr. Adelman replied: "No. Everything we proposed in Reykjavik is still on the table."

But he said, the Soviets "told us

they don't like the 10-year ban on strategic ballistic missiles."

Mr. Adelman added, "we think we should concentrate on areas of likely agreement — what's do-able in the near term, and that's the 50 per cent cut in strategic offensive weapons and intermediate nuclear forces reductions."

"Mr. Adelman said Wednesday the proposal to ban all ballistic missiles within 10 years was 'not operational at this point' because of Soviet disinterest."

"You work on what is realistic," he told a group of reporters.

President Reagan said Wednesday night he was optimistic about prospects for an arms control accord with the Soviet Union despite the breakdown of his Reykjavik summit with Mr. Gorbachev.

"I know they are difficult to deal with," he told a news conference in reference to Soviet arms negotiators.

But he added: "They are still at the table in Geneva and as long as they are still there, I continue to be optimistic."

"For the first time there was an agreement reached on the desirability of eliminating all strategic nuclear missiles in a five-year period and dealing with the intermediate-range missiles," Mr. Reagan said Wednesday night.

The reference to five years, rather than ten, appeared to be a slip of the tongue.

Mr. Reagan said Mr. Gorbachev brought up his proposal for eliminating all strategic weapons — including bombs and cruise missiles — just before the Reykjavik meeting broke up and there was no time to deal with it.

W. German FDP may withdraw support for new anti-terrorism law

MAINZ, West Germany (R) — Leaders of the small but influential Free Democratic Party (FDP), meeting Friday prior to a final pre-election congress, were expected to withdraw support for part of an anti-terrorism measure proposed by their partners in the West German coalition.

Party sources said the liberal FDP, in a move certain to anger Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic Union (CDU), would reject total immunity from prosecution for Red Army Faction (RAF) guerrillas who turn state's evidence.

Instead, the two-day FDP congress in Mainz is likely to back a watered-down version of the law, offering reduced penalties to guerrillas who give themselves up and provide the police with information.

Party leaders including Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Economics Minister Martin Bangemann worked on a resolution to that effect Friday, the sources said.

Mr. Kohl's centre-right coalition proposed the law last

month after the RAF shot dead a top Foreign Ministry aide in Bonn. FDP leaders at first agreed to back legislation that would have offered full immunity even to self-confessed guerrilla murderers. However, polls showed such a scheme was unpopular and experts doubted whether it would help to crack the hard core of the RAF.

FDP leaders, under strong rank-and-file pressure, finally ruled out letting guerrilla informers go free.

The FDP has long held a position disproportionate to its eight per cent share of the vote because the West German system of proportional representation has prevented the major parties from dominating parliament for most of the republic's history.

The FDP has shared power since 1969 in coalitions with either the Christian conservative parties or the Social Democrats.

But with one opinion poll this week predicting an outright victory in next January's poll for Mr. Kohl's CDU and its right-wing Bavarian Christian

Social Union sister party, the FDP is in danger of being relegated to the opposition benches.

The party failed to win seats in recent state elections in the city-state of Hamburg and Bavaria, while the conservative parties did well in both contests at the expense of the opposition Social Democrats.

FDP General Secretary Helmut Haussmann said in an interview Thursday the Free Democrats were not worried by the prospect of an absolute majority next January for the conservatives.

"On the contrary it is an argument for the FDP because people who support the present coalition believe a combination of FDP and the Christian Democrats is more competent than an absolute conservative majority," Mr. Haussmann said.

"The voter does not want Kohl left alone with (Bavarian Prime Minister Franz Josef) Strauss," Mr. Strauss has frequently been at odds with the FDP during the last four years, accusing it of blocking conservative policies especially on foreign issues.

African frontline leaders to resume talks

HARARE (R) — Three leaders of Southern Africa's frontline states will begin a second round of talks with Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko Saturday about ways of reducing regional trade dependency on white-ruled South Africa.

The meeting, in north-western Zaire, follows one in northern Zambia on Oct. 19 at which the presidents of Zambia, Angola and Mobutu in line with their efforts to divert trade traffic away from

South Africa and develop alternative transport routes.

It was while flying back from that meeting that Mozambican President Samora Machel was killed in a plane crash inside South Africa.

This weekend's talks will mark new President Joaquim Chissano's first trip out of Mozambique since he took office.

The crash prompted widespread but so far unproved

charges that Pretoria, upon whom Zambia and Zimbabwe depend particularly for passage of their trade, was to blame.

About half Zaire's vital mineral exports go by train to South African ports.

The frontline states — Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe — regard themselves as the spearhead of opposition to the Pretoria government.

U.S. Senate chooses new leaders

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate opposition Democrats reinstalled Robert Byrd as majority leader Thursday, and Republicans picked Bob Dole as minority leader for the 100th U.S. Congress that convenes on Jan. 6. The action reverses the roles Senators Byrd and Dole played in the 99th Congress and reflects the outcome of the Nov. 4 national elections that ended six years of Republican control in the Senate.

Sen. Byrd, who has led Senate Democrats since 1977, returned to the majority position he held until 1980.

With each party's choices for its leadership posts all but settled in advance, there was no suspense as the 55 Democrats and 45 Republicans met privately in different rooms near the Senate chamber.

Along with Sen. Byrd, who also was celebrating his 69th birthday, the Democrats were re-electing their top leaders from the last Congress, including Alan Cranston as assistant majority leader and Daniel Inouye as chairman of the Senate Democratic Caucus, the formal organization of Senate Democrats.

In addition to Sen. Dole, who will be facing his first congress as minority leader, the Republicans re-elected their entire leadership team, including Alan Simpson as assistant leader and John Chafee as chairman of the Republican Conference.

The only leadership contest had been on the Democratic side for the powerful post of majority leader. Sen. Byrd was assured of the job after his only announced challenger, Senator J. Bennett Johnston of Louisiana, dropped out of the race last week.

Kim death report raises questions in South Korea

SEOUL (R) — Prime Minister Lho Shin-Yong Friday called for an end to public criticism of the way the South Korean government handled rumours, later disproved, that North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung had been assassinated.

Mr. Lho, speaking after opposition M.P.s demanded his cabinet's resignation over the issue, said continuing controversy could only give further satisfaction to the Communist North.

On Monday the Seoul Defence Ministry said troops at the demilitarised zone (DMZ) dividing Korea had monitored propaganda broadcasts from the North since announcing Mr.

Kim had been shot dead in a train. South Koreans, who have never forgiven Mr. Kim for launching the 1950-53 Korean War in which three million people were killed and 10 million separated from their families, took to the streets with joy in the belief that their arch-enemy was finally dead.

The rejoicing turned to dismay barely 24 hours later when Kim turned up alive and well at Pyongyang airport to greet the visiting Mongolian President Zhambyl Bamtukh.

Seoul officials blamed the fiasco on a disinformation play by Pyongyang aimed either at destabilising the South or covering up an invasion plot.

Karmal relieved of presidency

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan President Babrak Karmal, who came to power as the Soviet Union sent troops into his country seven years ago, has been relieved of all state and party posts for what is officially described as poor health.

The decision by the Central Committee of the ruling Communist Party and the Revolutionary Council was taken at separate meetings Thursday at Mr. Karmal's own request in the capital Kabul, the official Kabul Radio said Thursday night.

Mr. Karmal's removal comes only about seven months after he was replaced as general secretary of the (Communist) People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) by former secret police chief Najibullah.

It also coincides with renewed efforts by a special United Nations' envoy to break a deadlock between Kabul and Islamabad over a timetable for a Soviet troop pullout in a proposed political settlement in war-torn Afghanistan.

Kabul Radio quoted Najibullah as telling party members that 57-year-old Karmal was relieved on "humanistic grounds" as his health was "deteriorating with every passing day."

But Afghan exiles and Western diplomats in Pakistan have reported moves by Mr. Najibullah to consolidate his power and eliminate Mr. Karmal's influence.

His replacement as party leader had left Mr. Karmal a figurehead head of state in his capacity as president of the Revolutionary Council Presidium as well as a member of the ruling politburo, the positions which also be now relinquished.

Nobody was immediately named as successor. But Kabul Radio said the Revolutionary Council session Thursday was chaired by a vice-chairman and politburo member Nur Ahmad Nur.

The party committee Thursday also promoted State Security Minister Maj.-Gen. Mohammad Farooq Yaqubi from non-voting or alternate membership to full membership of the politburo.

Interior Minister Maj.-Gen. Sayed Mohammad Gulabzoi, considered by diplomatic analysts as a rival to Mr. Najibullah, was named an alternate member, along with Farid Ahmad Muzdak.

Western diplomats in Islamabad reported at the time of Mr. Karmal's replacement as party chief that women and young people demonstrating in his support outside the crucial party meeting were dispersed by secret policemen.

Further signs of his enduring support among some sectors came last month at a parade in Kabul to mark the departure of units of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Western correspondents brought in to witness the withdrawal reported that Mr. Karmal was mobbed by a small crowd of enthusiastic supporters as he left the podium. Western diplomats in Pakistan later reported that some of these Karmal supporters had been arrested by authorities.

Western diplomats in Kabul said the ousted leader had been enjoying a resurgence of support in late summer among party moderates who apparently saw him as more nationalistic than the clearly pro-Soviet Najibullah.

Nevertheless, his star waned and over the past two months the diplomats reported that his portraits were less and less visible on public buildings in the Afghan capital.

The United States Thursday dismissed as meaningless the departure of Mr. Karmal.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters that Mr. Karmal's departure "would have no effect."

"The Soviets continue to call the shots, undoubtedly including this one," he said.

Privately, U.S. officials were even more dismissive. They said the only surprise in the move was that it had not happened earlier.

"This does amount to a hill of beans," one said.

At a Capitol Hill news conference later, Afghan rebels also dismissed Mr. Karmal's departure as irrelevant.

"Babrak Karmal and other leaders are all just like chestnuts in the hands of the Russians," said Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi, spokesman for an alliance of seven rebel groups which formed one year ago.

"They take one and put another ... there is no difference," he said, adding that the war against the Soviet-backed Afghan government was proceeding well.

Ramos asks Aquino to sack inadequate ministers

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The military chief of staff confirmed for the first time Friday that the military wants some cabinet officers fired.

Gen. Fidel Ramos, widely credited with recently heading off a possible coup, met Friday with President Corason Aquino for 90 minutes at her office and told her the military would like to see some inefficient cabinet members leave office.

There were rumours before Mrs. Aquino's recent trip to Japan

of a plot by disaffected officers close to Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile to seize the government and fire inept and left-leaning ministers.

Leftists, meanwhile, are urging Mrs. Aquino to purge right-wing officials.

During a day-long funeral procession Thursday for slain leftist Rolando Olalia, crowds demanded the ouster of Mr. Enrile and other fascist elements. Some 100,000 people turned out for the funeral — the

largest leftist outpouring in Manila since Mrs. Aquino took office in February.

Mrs. Aquino's brother-in-law, Agapito "Butz" Aquino, alleged a possible covert U.S. role against the government. He made the claim during a news conference called to warn of an alleged military plot to fabricate a terrorist incident on Mindanao Island and blame it on Muslim rebels.

Answering a reporter's question, Mr. Aquino, said he would "not be surprised" if the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) were involved in the recent spate of bombings and shootings which has shaken public confidence.

He is the president's special emissary to negotiate with the rebel Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

"We should be alert as far as the Americans are concerned," Mr. Aquino said. He added that the CIA "might have a hand or a role" in recent disorders.

With each party's choices for its leadership posts all but settled in advance, there was no suspense as the 55 Democrats and 45 Republicans met privately in different rooms near the Senate chamber.

Along with Sen. Byrd, who also was celebrating his 69th birthday, the Democrats were re-electing their top leaders from the last Congress, including Alan Cranston as assistant majority leader and Daniel Inouye as chairman of the Senate Democratic Caucus, the formal organization of Senate Democrats.

In addition to Sen. Dole, who will be facing his first congress as minority leader, the Republicans re-elected their entire leadership team, including Alan Simpson as assistant leader and John Chafee as chairman of the Republican Conference.

The only leadership contest had been on the Democratic side for the powerful post of majority leader. Sen. Byrd was assured of the job after his only announced challenger, Senator J. Bennett Johnston of Louisiana, dropped out of the race last week.

Mr. Doi said Friday the polls

had shown that in some voter groups, male support for her leadership had grown faster than from women and she was not afraid that an aggressive pro-woman platform would alienate Japanese men.

The JSP is traditionally the main opposition party, but the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has dominated Japanese politics for three decades and political analysts see no immediate serious threat to its position.

However, Ms. Doi's support from women voters has made her a threat to be reckoned with.

Ms. Doi is trying to change the image of the JSP from that of a trade-union dominated, left-wing party toward a more moderate, popular form of European Social Democracy, she said.

So far, she has been careful to steer a middle course between the left and right wings of her bickering party, but her statements Friday place her more toward the moderate, right-wing, which is more likely to attract the popular vote.

Japanese Socialist leader attacks male-dominated society

TOKYO (R) — Socialist Party (JSP) leader Takako Doi, the first woman to head a Japanese political party, made a fierce attack on Japan's male-dominated society Friday.

"As you well know, in Japan, women's aspirations and capabilities have been oppressed and we women are dissatisfied and angry beyond any man's imagination," she said in a speech before the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan.

"As the first woman political party leader in this country, I feel a sense of responsibility. Whenever I talk with people I remind them that half of the population are women," she said.

Ms. Doi, 57, has been given the task of rebuilding the JSP, following a disastrous result in July's general election when it lost 25 of its 111 seats in the 512-seat parliament.

Since her appointment on Sept. 1, her appeal to women voters has already helped push JSP popularity poll ratings four points higher to 19 per cent.

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Pope shows respect to ancient Fijian culture

SUVA (R) — Pope John Paul showed respect for pre-Christian Fijian culture, sampling a drink once condemned as devil worship, but called for a new drive to spread Catholicism in the Pacific.

The Pope's one-day visit to Fiji, part of a six-nation tour, was marked by a clear acceptance of the Pacific island nation's cultural heritage.

The Pontiff received a solemn welcome from hundreds of warrior dancers and chiefs wearing grass or leaf skirts, when he arrived here from Singapore.

He accepted a ritual offering from a bare-chested, painted warrior of Kava, a traditional ceremonial drink made from the root of the pepper plant.

Although prepared in a mild form, with its normal narcotic effect diluted, it was likely to have given him a burning sensation in the mouth. The ritual drink was condemned by early missionaries as devil worship but is now generally accepted.

At the ceremony the Pope was also given a polished whale's tooth, a traditional symbol of high esteem.

Later the Pope celebrated an open-air mass attended by around

20,000 people. He was escorted to the altar by a phalanx of eight armed warriors wearing only loinclothes, bone necklaces and leaf decorations, their faces marked with paint.

The warriors, armed with heavy carved war clubs and long spears, guarded the altar — a podium raised on rocks with a straw roof.

Three other Fijian men, wearing traditional grass skirts and with yellow cloth dangling from their arms, acted as servers at the mass, carrying the candles, communion bell and incense.

The concessions to pre-Christian culture were in line with the Pope's behaviour on his previous two stops in the predominantly non-Catholic countries of Bangladesh and Singapore, where he urged respect for other religions and national loyalties.

At the mass, the Pope urged Christian unity as well as dialogue with the Hindu and Muslim community in Fiji. He also called for more young men to volunteer for the Catholic priesthood.

In a letter address to the Pacific Bishops' Conference he repeated his appeal. "My prayer is that you

will witness such a flowering of vocations in your midst that, in the not too distant future, the churches (in the Pacific) which have been established by missionaries will in turn be sending forth missionaries to other nations."

Candidates for the priesthood are actually increasing in the South Pacific, in contrast to many other parts of the world. But Vatican officials said the Pope believed the thousands of islands in the region needed many more priests.

Fewer than 10 per cent of Fiji's 700,000 people are Catholics while 40 per cent are Methodists. The indigenous Melanesians are outnumbered by Indians, mostly-Hindu descendants of indentured sugar plantation labourers brought here in British colonial times.

The 66-year-old Pope was Friday clearly showing signs of fatigue after the 24-hour journey from Dhaka to Suva, with a five-hour stop for a mass in Singapore.

He goes on to New Zealand, Australia and the Seychelles in the longest of the 32 trips during his eight-year papacy.

Pharaonic tomb found in desert

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian archaeologists have uncovered the tomb of a Pharaonic prince at Saqqara, the desert site of the pyramid step pyramid. Al-Ahram newspaper has reported. It said the tomb, dating back to 2400 B.C., was well preserved and hieroglyphics showed that it belonged to Eri, a sixth dynasty prince.

E. German escapes to West; breaks his leg

WEST BERLIN (R) — A 33-year-old East German man escaped over the Berlin Wall to the West during the night, ducking a hail of bullets from Communist guards but breaking his leg in the 14-foot (over four metre) jump to the Western side, police said. A police spokesman said East German border guards fired seven shots at the fugitive without hitting him. The man was being treated in a West Berlin hospital.

Swiss refuse visa for Marcos

HONOLULU (R) — Former Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos denounced the Swiss government as "unjust and inhospitable" after refusing him permission to enter Switzerland. "After what the Swiss did to me that would be the last place I would go," Marcos said in a statement. Marcos made the comments after Swiss Consul-General Niklaus Schweizer, said he had told the former president he would not be allowed to visit Switzerland. "Marcos received the news in a very calm, very nice and gentlemanly fashion when I called on him yesterday," Dr. Niklaus Schweizer told Reuters by telephone. The Swiss government said in Bern it had received information Marcos, alleged to have millions of dollars frozen in Swiss bank accounts, had been planning a trip to Switzerland soon.

Dallas star thanks fans for support

BOULDER, Montana (R) — "Dallas" soap opera star Patrick Duffy thanked fans around the world for their support after the shotgun killing of his parents. "Up until now, I never fully appreciated the loyalty and depth of concern my fans all over the world had for me and the character I portray," said Duffy, 37. "To those who have voiced this concern, I want to thank them for their love and for understanding my family's need for privacy at this time." Terrance and Marie Duffy, both in their 60s, were killed on Tuesday in the Lounge, a bar they have owned and operated since the 1950s, during an apparent robbery attempt. Two teenagers, Sean Anthony Wentz and Kenneth Albert Miller, both 19, have been charged with homicide after being arrested in nearby Helena, Montana. The Duffys kept pictures of their son, who plays Bobby Ewing in the popular television series about wheeler-dealer Texans, in the bar.

Fat cat survives on flab

TULSA, Oklahoma (R) — A fit black cat named Tricie is alive thanks to her excess flab after an unintended 22-day starvation diet in a trunk, her owner says. The nine-year-old feline disappeared shortly before Halloween, said owner Leslie Elzo. Elzo heard mewing around her home, but a search revealed nothing. This week, when Elzo opened a trunk to get a sweater, she also found Tricie — weak and emaciated but alive after being accidentally shut in the trunk for 22 days, with no food or water. A veterinarian told Elzo that Tricie survived because she was a fat cat.

Pensioner gets life for raping daughter

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Sessions Court President Rabbiah Hussein jailed a pensioner for life here for raping his 16-year-old daughter and threatening her with a knife when she became pregnant. The judge said she only spared 59-year-old Y. S. S. a whipping because of his age.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q. — We had a dreadful result in our weekly rubber bridge game. My partner opened in third seat with one spade, holding: